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Southeast Asia Report



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27 SEPTEMBER 1986

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BURMA

BRIEFS

SWISS GRANT--U Nyunt Maung, deputy minister of planning and finance, and Mr (Marcus Peter), charge d'affaires ad interim of the Swiss Embassy, signed a memorandum of understanding at the conference hall of the Ministry of Planning and Finance this morning. Under the agreement, the Swiss Government will provide the Burmese Government with a grant of 10 million Swiss francs--equivalent to about 40.9 million kyat. The grant will be used to procure machinery and construction goods needed for the paddy silo and milling project undertaken by the Trade Ministry's Agricultural and Farm Produce Trade Corporation. [Excerpt] [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 2 Sep 86 BK] /8309

MAUNG MAUNG KHA TO VISIT SINGAPORE--The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that U Maung Maung Kha, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, will visit the Republic of Singapore in the near future at the invitation of Mr Lee Kuan Yew, prime minister of the Republic of Singapore. [Text] [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0130 GMT 11 Sep 86] /8309

CSO: 4211/84

PHILIPPINES

LABOR MINISTRY ASSAILS LABOR POLICY OF U.S. BASES

HK021514 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 2 Sep 86 p 8

[Article by Olaf Giron]

[Text] Labor ministry officials assailed yesterday the cheap-labor policy that they said the United States has adopted in its Pacific military bases, stressing that the policy threatened the jobs of all non-Americans employed in the installations.

The policy is apparent in the dismissal of 200 Filipino workers on Wake Island and their replacement by Thais "purportedly for economic reasons," they said.

Deputy Labor Minister Rogelio Garcia said "such a policy can also imply a strong message to both Filipinos and Thais that they have no right and should not expect increases in wages and benefits above the U.S. minimum no matter how long, dedicated, efficient and loyal they serve since they are easily replaceable by cheap labor."

Using the lowest cost criteria literally is not always sound management practice, he noted. Moreover, it violates RP-U.S. commitment under the Offshore Labor Agreement to "promote and maintain sound equitable recruitment and employment practices and conditions of work," Garcia added.

In a telex message to Alfredo de la Rosa, Philippine labor attache in Washington, Garcia said that unless clarified, "this is not our perception of U.S. policy or of the mutual concerns enshrined in the Offshore Labor Agreement."

According to reports, the main cause of the Filipino workers' separation from the service was their demand for salary increases of three percent every 18 months for the next five years.

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST HITS U.S. COMMENTS, ATMOSPHERE OF TALKS

HK031350 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 3 Sep 86 p 4

["My Cup of Tea" column by Ninez Cacho-Olivares: "My Country 'Tis of Thee?"]

[Text] To my knowledge, the Philippines officially ceased to be a colony of the U.S. since its independence in 1946. But judging from the way official Washington continues to meddle in the affairs of this country, one can hardly get away from that sticky feeling that we are still looked upon as a colony.

Take, for instance, the recent NEW YORK TIMES article which reported that the Reagan Administration officials were "increasingly concerned by what they considered President Corazon Aquino's lack of effectiveness in handling the insurgencies by communists and other groups in the Philippines," adding that they wanted her to take tougher measures against them.

THE NEW YORK TIMES quoted the officials as saying "there are real concerns in certain quarters. She had to make this effort and she has made it and now its time to move to the next step." It seems that Reagan Administration officials believe that the Philippine military "is not trained and able to conduct a counter insurgency campaign." The report mentioned that "the administration had at first supported the peace overture, but that time had elapsed without tangible results."

Begging the absolute pardon of our erstwhile (or still current?) masters, the insurgency problem is a Filipino problem, which, as America is wont to say, needs a Filipino solution. But America muddles it up by bringing up geopolitics and the importance of the Philippines as a strategic defense site for the Asia-Pacific region, the main reason used to support the argument that the precious U.S. bases must continue to stay in the Philippines.

To digress a bit... Finland, which is not a communist country, is just a landstep away from the USSR. It trades with both the USSR and the U.S. but is not aligned with either superpower. Communists are represented in their parliament. Although Soviet communists are their next door neighbors, the Finns--at least the ones I met--did not manifest the paranoia the Reagan Administration officials usually display at the mere mention of communism.

Of course, one can always argue that things are different in prosperous Finland and in other parts of Europe, where Eurocommunism is not a dirty word. True, we are a Third World country, with poverty staring us in the face and that insurgency has become a serious threat to our republic. But are Washington's suggested "tougher measures" the solution to the insurgency problem?

The White House says that while it supported the peace overture, time had passed with no tangible results. But why does meddlesome Washington expect instant results? The U.S.-backed Salvadoran President Durate has been quite unsuccessful in his negotiations with Salvadoran guerrillas and tougher measures haven't helped him either. And he has been in office much longer than President Aquino.

What we have is a 17-year-old communist insurgency problem which Mr Marcos, with full U.S. backing, failed to quash. And yet today, the Reagan Administration expects the new government to show instant tangible results after only less than a month of peace talks!

I have my doubts that the peace talks will amount to anything. Both parties have been messing things up. Both have been using the media for their purposes. But what is difficult to understand is why the government negotiator, Minister Ramon Mitra, is being indiscreet. He alerts the media when he is expected to meet with the rebels and then expresses disappointment when the rebels, perhaps for security reasons, don't show up. He even publicly questions why lawyers of the rebels have to be involved in the discussions. Furthermore, every time Mitra and other government officials disclose to the media their sentiments, it is almost certain that a public reaction from the extreme left will follow. Under this prevailing climate, how are peace talks expected to succeed?

When Jose Diokno was tapped as negotiator, he was the soul of discretion. He worked quietly and prudently without media publicity.

But perhaps many do not want the peace talks to really succeed. Perhaps what many want is an all-out war. After all, almighty Washington believes that the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines], in only six months time, is now well disciplined and able to conduct a counter-insurgency campaign.

I beg to disagree. In the provinces, one still hears stories of military abuses. Just recently, in San Vicente, Davao del Norte, in the experimental ceasefire zone, a fact-finding group composed of local officials, church and civic groups and journalists reportedly saw what was left of the 12 huts military troops allegedly burned down. Residents also informed the team that three farmers were shot dead by soldiers.

Reprisal from the soldiers, to avenge the deaths of their ambushed comrades? And if so, did this have the sanction of the high command? But if this has no sanction, then one can conclude that, if some elements in the military did

indeed kill farmers and burn huts, then the high command has no control over its army and that the "bad boys" in the military are still alive and doing very well in their atrocious treatment of human beings.

This is not the way to win a war against the insurgents. This is not the way to win the people over. However since the military is, to my mind, still psychologically ill-prepared for counter-insurgency, it probably won't know the difference. Perhaps America will find this out for itself, sooner or later.

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

COMMENTARIES UPBEAT ON GAINS FROM AQUINO'S TRAVEL

Gains Enumerated

HK281408 Manila NEWS HERALD in English 28 Aug 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Trips Made Gains for Aquino, Nation"]

[Text] On the day she left on the Indonesian leg of her first official trip abroad, President Aquino assured the nation she was leaving it in good hands.

Events at home during her four-day visits to Indonesia and Singapore justified her trust in the people to whom she left the job of housekeeping while she was away, no doubt totally dismaying her enemies who have been harping themselves hoarse on the theme of a divided Aquino house.

If for nothing else the presidential trip was a success for Mrs. Aquino and assuring friendly foreign governments they need not be too concerned about the stability of her administration.

However, she returned from her trip laden down with other gains as well. The immeasurable amount of goodwill her visits to Indonesia and Singapore generated cannot be [word indistinct]. And to be sure, her meetings with two seasoned heads of state, particularly President Suharto whose country had had to wrestle with problems similar to those burdening the Philippines, gave her a fresher insight into her own role as leader of a country struggling for survival.

No less significant are the concrete results of President Aquino's sojourns in the Philippines' two ASEAN colleagues. Her stay in Jakarta led to the Philippines and Indonesia agreeing to increase trade between them, go into joint business ventures and open new avenues for tourism and interaction between the two countries. Details of the bilateral accords include Indonesia agreeing to give priority to the Philippines as source of \$500 million worth of goods it buys annually from ASEAN countries, set up a joint venture in rattan furniture manufacturing, link the cities of Davao and Manado with a shipping line, and buy phosphoric acid from the Philippines which, in return, agreed to import ammonia from Indonesia.

In Singapore, Mrs Aquino's talks with Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew brightened prospects for investments from ASEAN's trade and industrial giant and of the Philippine Government divesting itself of its bloodsucking private holdings for which there seem to be no local takers.

The President leaves next month for a longer trip. We are sure it will be just as, if not more, fruitful than the first.

Gains Limited to Diplomacy

HK291354 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 29 Aug 86 p 4

[Editorial: "High Marks in Diplomacy Are Good Enough"]

[Text] Senior Filipino officials in the party of President Aquino have claimed that her visit to Indonesia and Singapore was a "roaring success." One is tempted to ask, in what sense?

A more realistic assessment does not permit us to share the excessive enthusiasm over the success. On a diplomatic level, it is clear that the President won high marks. The fact alone that she visited two neighboring ASEAN states ahead of her visit to the United States next month underscores the priority she has given to strengthening our relations with ASEAN, and in identifying our interests with our region.

This priority has not been lost on ASEAN and this could only have broadened diplomatic support for her domestically embattled government. The reaction to the visit from the Indonesian and Singaporean public, apart from that of their leaders, has been clearly enthusiastic. The visit gave them a chance to have a first hand view of a charismatic leader who spearheaded the movement to overthrow the Marcos regime and revived democracy in the Philippine.

State visits, more than anything else, offer leaders the best opportunity to take stock of each other, and "chemistry" established between Mrs Aquino and President Suharto and Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew will certainly facilitate communications among them.

Communications are even more essential for regional understanding because of the different political environments in which each of these leaders are governing. Mrs Aquino is president over a nation in transition from dictatorship to democracy; on the other hand, both President Suharto and Mr Lee are at the helm of authoritarian regimes.

No doubt, Mrs Aquino has seen examples of these systems at work and has even received suggestions about how to crush Communist insurgency or to attract foreign investment. The Indonesian armed forces crushed the Communist-linked coup attempt in 1964-65 with enormous cost of lives. About 500,000 people were reported to have died in killings in Java and Bali. The Indonesian massacres preceded the "killing fields" of Cambodia in which the Khmer Rouge, after winning power in Phnom Penh in the mid-seventies, annihilated nearly all of the Cambodian middle-class.

Mrs Aquino, judged from her statements upon arrival, does not seem terribly impressed by this final solution of the insurgency problem.

However, she did not have to go to Singapore to know what incentives are required to attract foreign investments. One of these is a tough policy on labor to prevent disruptive strikes. It is much easier to be restrictive on the rights of labor in authoritarian regimes than in democracies, and here lies one of the dilemmas of Mrs Aquino.

Also the President did not have to make an overseas trip to realize that she faces a formidable task to make our economic growth catch up with that of the rest of ASEAN. In 1980-84, while the rest of ASEAN was posting average real GNP growth of from five to six percent, the Philippines was scraping the bottom at 1.3 percent.

As for the goal of attracting ASEAN capital into the Philippines, this seems more rhetorical than factual. ASEAN countries are not known to be exporters of capital—although technological skills are another thing—and some of them are heavy borrowers from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. They are not expected to shift developmental resources away from their economic priorities just because she went out of her way to visit them.

So long as the achievements are limited to the diplomatic sphere, where esteem for her has certainly been enhanced, the visit can be said to have succeeded. If the brief overseas spell has given her the perspective and the confidence to face domestic problems of stability and promoting economic recovery, that result is good enough.

Situation During Aquino's Absence

HK281352 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 28 Aug 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Postscripts for Cory"]

[Text] Welcome home, Ms. President, and "mabuhay."

We are told that both President Suharto and Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew shared with you perceptions similar to those aired by many Filipinos themselves—that your Cabinet seems to be in disarray and, thus, inevitably projects overseas an unwholesome picture of government instability.

Press dispatches hint that Indonesian and Singaporean leaders have apprised you of their serious concern over the communist threat in the Philippines, which partakes of a danger to the entire region. We reacted with some degree of shock and anger—as who wouldn't—when Suharto lectured you on how to solve the communist problem. It may have been well-intentioned, but that formula would trigger disastrous consequences if applied in the Philippines. Remember the 350,000-500,000 alleged PKI [Communist Party of Indonesia] members who perished in Indonesia's anti-red drive? It did eliminate the red threat, but at what cost!

During your absence, there were both welcome and bad tidings. Butz Aquino returned from Jeddah with a promise by MNLF chairman Nur Misuari to discuss peace for Mindanao. The Manila Police wrote finis to the murder of former Batangas Fiscal Felizardo Lota with the arrest of abandonado [the abandoned—term for Marcos supporters] leader Fernando Diaz.

But there was also continued fighting in parts of the country between NPA rebels and government troops. And, of course, the problem of officers-in-charge remains unresolved, while NDF negotiators have reportedly become wary about continuing with the peace talks.

We worry about persistent reports of mass slayings in many areas as in Zamboanga. And the still unsolved Dagat-Dagatan massacre. The delay in the arrest of suspects and the filing of charges against them has not been fully explained. That the massacre should occur in the nation's capital speaks ill of the state of peace and order in the country.

It is frustrating to note that no major administration figure has bothered to take up the cudgels for the victims of that massacre. It could be that because they were small people, they hardly figure in the government's order of priorities, against the more pressing concerns of national import.

Perhaps, Ms. President, a value reassessment is in order? After all, the Republic of the Philippines is as much the Republic of the poorest of the poor in Tondo or Navotas as it is of the Moro people in Mindanao and the Benz-riding gentry of Makati.

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CSO: 4200/1423

PHILIPPINES

GOVERNMENT SEEKS HALT TO PARIS CLUB PAYMENTS

HK041341 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 4 Sep 86 p 2

[Article by Daniel C. Yu]

[Text] The government has asked for a suspension of payments of all debts due in the second semester of creditor governments participating in the Paris Club, citing the impact the payments would have on the country's international reserves.

Finance Minister Jaime V. Ongpin and Central Bank [CB] Governor Jose B. Fernandez Jr. have sent a telex to Jean Claude Trichet, chairman of the 15-country Paris Club, asking that all loans maturing from 1 July to 31 December be included in the next debt restructuring for the Philippines by the group.

The Paris Club is a forum of industrialized countries for negotiating debts of developing countries. The group meets in Paris.

Under the restructuring agreement reached on 20 December 1984, between the government and representatives of credit governments in the Paris Club, principal and interest payments due from 1 January 1985 to 30 June 1986 were rescheduled over a 10-year period with a five-year grace.

Bilateral negotiations based on the agreed restructuring principles were then conducted, covering a total of \$1,097 million in interest and principal payments.

BUSINESS DAY sources in the CB said official credits due for payment from 30 June to 31 December total "\$200-odd million." These were not included in 1984 Paris Club agreement.

Sources said the government cannot pay this amount without adversely affecting the country's international reserves, which at present are about \$1.75 billion.

One source, said the government informed the Paris Club that the present reserve position is fairly comfortable but the country "still needs to conserve its foreign exchange resources to finance essential imports, service external obligations, and meet target levels set by the International Monetary Fund."

Also, talks are set to begin later this month with foreign commercial banks on a restructuring of debts falling due from 1987 to 1991 and the Philippines would like a similar "multi-year" restructuring agreement with foreign governments, the sources said.

The government also informed the Paris Club that some borrowers, principally government-owned corporations, continue to experience cash flow problems and cannot meet interest payment schedules.

Some borrowers have officially informed the CB that they can remit a third of 40 percent of interest on loans falling due after 30 June based on the rescheduling terms under the 1984 agreement.

Under a circular issued last year by the CB, all local borrowers from the Paris Club must deposit with the CB the peso equivalent of their foreign debt service according to payment dates set in the agreement.

Sources yesterday said some of these borrowers cannot meet the payment dates although Paris Club loans carry concessional interest rates.

Sources said with a suspension of payment of Paris Club debts for this semester, the government would like to begin talks with foreign commercial banks in the third quarter of this year, on debts totaling \$6 billion to \$9 billion due up to 1991.

So as not to end up with the foreign commercial banks "bailing out" the creditor governments, which will lead to higher costs of funds and increased dependence on commercial credits, the Philippines needs a parallel restructuring accord with the foreign governments.

The government asked that arrears arising from non-payment of obligations due from 30 June to year-end should be consolidated and included in the next Paris Club restructuring exercise.

Also, the government said the country is expecting new loans secured from and guaranteed by Paris Club members for this semester. Non-payment of debts to these creditors might result in a halt in disbursement of these loans.

Paris Club participants are France, Finland, West Germany, Italy, the United States, Belgium, Spain, Denmark, Switzerland, Canada, Japan, Britain, Australia, Austria, and the Netherlands.

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

TATAD ANALYZES AQUINO-MISUARI MEETING

HK041335 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 4 Sep 86 p 4

["Here and Now" column by Francisco S. Tatad: "The Aquino-Misuari Meeting"]

[Text] Foreign newspapermen have started converging in Jolo for the great handshake the world is waiting for—that of President Aquino and Nur Misuari, chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front.

The world has seen so many handshakes before. It has seen the handshake between Imelda Marcos and Col. Qadhdhafi; between Imelda and Castro; between Imelda and Mao and Zhou; between Imelda and the Shah; between Imelda and Hassan; between Imelda and Gorbachev; between Imelda and Thatcher.

But this is a handshake to end all handshakes—it is expected to bury an armed movement that has long threatened to cut up the Philippines. Misuari is coming all the way from the Middle East, while Mrs Aquino is dropping all her cramming courses in preparation for her American visit—just for this meeting.

Will Misuari take an oath to her "Freedom Constitution?" Will he quote to her the Koran?

No one is saying anything. But her handlers are confident it should make the news photo of this year. They expect it to dominate the international magazine covers. To them, it is a big media event, just as everything that has happened so far to the Aquino Government has been one big media event after another.

What matters is what makes the right impression on the media consumer. Eventually, it should make the right impression upon the Nobel Prize committee in Stockholm, which must have noted the negotiations with the communists following the non-violent and nearly completely bloodless revolt. But the first priority is the American TV audience—the Jolo meeting should project the very image of pure courage, reminiscent of the historic meeting between Sadat and Begin.

Will it end the Mindanao conflict?

That is another matter. Despite Misuari's acknowledged position in the MNLF, some Moro leaders have begun to question his sole right to speak for the Bangsa Moro people. Mrs Aquino has contributed much to this adverse reaction by refusing to meet with any of the other MNLF leaders, even though they had not suggested Jolo, TawiTawi or Basilan, but though they had not suggested Jolo, TawiTawi or Basilan, but would have been quite content to see her in her kitchen.

Nor is it clear that Misuari is coming to Jolo to guarantee an end to the armed activities of his movement. Assuming he is, it is not clear what Mrs Aquino is prepared to commit to him--and what kind of popular backing she expects to get for any such commitment. If then Misuari seems to have some problem binding all the Bangsa Moro factions, Aquino is not without a similar problem guaranteeing popular support for any commitment she might make to the MNLF leader.

There is no indication that she has brought in her defense minister or her foreign minister on her approach to the MNLF question. Although she had sent her brother-in-law Agapito "Butz" Aquino to meet with Misuari in Damascus, there has been no substantial discussion of the MNLF question in the cabinet, or elsewhere, either before or after the Damascus meeting.

Ideally, she should have convoked the National Security Council [NSC], and discussed it there. This was not done. The executive secretary will probably tell us that the NSC so far exists only on paper: well, so much for pugnacity, the President could have activated it for this purpose, if for none other. There is absolutely no justification for so important an issue to have remained until now a "family matter."

The resolution of the Mindanao conflict, like the resolution of the communist-led insurgency, is a state issue, not a personal one. It involves the whole nation. While the president is expected to play a central role, she cannot keep the nation--beginning with her cabinet--guessing as to what is being exchanged for what in any negotiations.

The nation need not be told about all the fine details of the negotiations. This is not done. But it has a right to have a clear idea of where the government stands and what it is doing to secure the national interest on this question.

The possibility that peace may be procured by this single meeting--were that possibility any more proximate than it seems to be as of now--does not justify keeping the cabinet and the rest of the government in the dark on what is happening and what is expected to happen. It is no way to run a coalition or corporation.

It is possible that the president's trip was inspired by the public relations geniuses, reportedly being helped by some American experts, who are out to make her the biggest star ever to hit Washington. This makes the case so much the worse for her, and for her advisers. Have they ever bothered to think of its various implications?

Supposing the National Democratic Front, which had been content to meet with Messrs Mitra and Guingona until now, were to demand that they sit down with Mrs Aquino instead, what then? What possible excuse could she then give, after the media event in Jolo this weekend?

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

PAPER CITES AQUINO-MISUARI CONVERSATION

HK081043 Quezon City NEW DAY in English 8 Sep 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by Joel D. Lacsamana]

[Text] The elusive dream of genuine peace in Muslim Mindanao has received historic impetus when the government and the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) agreed here to cease hostilities while peace talks are being held.

The pact--the first of its kind between a Philippine head of state and a chieftain of the MNLF as well as its military arm, the Bangsa Moro Army--was forged by President Corazon Aquino and the MNLF's charismatic chairman, Nur Misuari, after a two-hour meeting inside a paint-peeled Carmelite nunnery along bustling Candasuli road, deep in downtown Jolo.

In a joint communique read to the media by Agapito "Butz" Aquino, the president's brother-in-law who laid the groundwork for the historic meeting, Mrs Aquino and Misauri said: "We agree to support the continued cessation of hostilities."

The two leaders also agreed to form their respective panels who will sit down in actual peace negotiations at a still unspecified date. It was stipulated during the meeting that the panelists from either side must be acceptable to the other so as to assure an atmosphere of trust.

The talks, as disclosed by Misuari to newsmen after the meeting, will "definitely" be held outside the country in coordination with the Organization of Islamic Conference.

For the government panel, Mrs Aquino designated the Southern Command Chief, Maj Gen Jose Magno, as her personal representative on military matters while Misuari named MNLF chief of military intelligence, Brig Gen Abdul Sarring. Butz Aquino for the government, and Ustadz Sharif Jaijani, for the MNLF were likewise tapped as civilian coordinators.

In the press conference that followed the meeting, Butz Aquino disclosed that the two major issues in the Muslim conflict--autonomy and secession--were left untouched during the Aquino-Misuari gab. "That," he noted, "will be up for discussion when the panel convenes."

The venue of the controversial peace dialog, which had been played up considerably during the past few days, was kept secret up to the last minute, sowing confusion among the foreign, national and local journalists who had converged in this grimy and hauntingly battlescarred city for the past few days. A few hours before the meeting, however, NEW DAY was able to narrow down the prospective sites for the dialogue through the help of military sources: a quiet Carmelite convent along Gandasuli street, the Notre Dame University, and the well-equipped RPS Ang Pangulo which was docked at the Jolo pier.

The meeting, held behind closed doors inside one of the anterooms of the convent, was not as secret as the dialogue participants might have wanted it. The upper panes of the windows on two sides of the anteroom where the dialogue was held were carelessly left open, thus permitting almost everybody stationed outside--security people of both camps and a sprinkling of media members lucky enough to penetrate the tight security of the building--to hear snatches of the give-and-take between Mrs Aquino, Misuari as well as Armed Forces Chief General Fidel V. Ramos, Defense Minister Juan Ponce-Enrile and Butz Aquino, all of whom participated in the dialogue in its later stages.

"I came here against the advice and pronouncements of a lot of people close to my office," Mrs Aquino was heard as telling Misuari. "I wouldn't have attempted this gesture if I wasn't assured we could do something together to help further the cause of peace in this part of the country. Faith has brought me where I am today. My reason for being here is to reach out to our Muslim brothers to attain peace."

Misuari, for his part, said he deeply appreciated the president's "bold and sincere" gesture but nonetheless could not help pointing out that he had also risked something in his decision to sit down with her. "I had to get the permission of many of my Muslim brothers to go here," he said. "In fact, my being here violates a legacy or tradition which has governed our people for over four hundred years: we've always believed that our leader never meets the leader of our enemy. But I violated this legacy for the sake of peace and for our people."

With regard to a proposed ceasefire, Misuari said that "is merely a matter of formalities."

"Unless your Armed Forces intrudes into our liberated areas, a ceasefire is just a matter of formalities," he said.

When Mrs Aquino expressed her wish that Misuari "lead" a ceasefire in Mindanao, the Moro chieftain concurred but cautioned that he must first "offer" this idea to the rest of the MNLF factions in order to get their approval. "I will have to around the different provinces to see the people," he said.

"How long will this take?" Mrs Aquino asked.

"Maybe a week or more," Misuari answered.

Later, when Enrile and Ramos joined the talks at the request of the president so as to elucidate on the military aspects of the proposed peace (Enrile and Ramos's counterparts in the MNLF were also asked to be present), both also made suggestions for a temporary ceasefire."

"I have already explained the difficulties of this proposal to the president," Misuari said.

Enrile noted, however, that a ceasefire is needed to prevent anything that could disrupt "this new beginning."

Nothing, however, that Misuari seemed firm about including any mention of the word ceasefire, the defense minister found a semantic way out by offering that both the government and the MNLF agree to observe a "temporary cessation of hostilities." To this, Misuari agreed.

Enrile and Misuari, in fact, sounded as if they hit it off quite well. At one point during the dialogue, the defense minister extended an invitation to Misuari to visit Manila at some future date "if only to show people that nobody there is going to harm you."

"You mean because President Aquino went out of her way to visit me in Jolo I should now reciprocate by visiting her in Manila?" Misuari said. "Okay, but I'll have to discuss this first with my brother... thank you anyway for the invitation."

There were only two instances which this writer overheard in which Misuari subtly interposed his own suggestions over that of his fellow negotiators. Ironically, both times were not with President Aquino but with Enrile and Ramos.

The first stance was when Enrile suggested that the wording of the joint communique read that "the temporary ceasefire is on..." Misuari, however, pointed out that there hasn't been any hostilities between the MNLF and the military for some time. "Let's change it," he suggested, to "the cessation of hostilities shall continue..."

The second instance was even more minor, semantically at least. Misuari merely suggested that Ramos's term that "Misuari will resume the process of consultation with Muslim leaders in the provinces under this atmosphere of friendship and respect." Misuari had the last part changed to "under this favorable situation..." On both suggestions, Enrile and Ramos quickly concurred.

After the meeting, Misuari described the president to the newsmen waiting outside the convent as "warm and very sincere." Querried on how he felt over the results of his initial meeting with Mrs Aquino, he answered that he was "very satisfied" and added that the results were "exactly what he and his Muslim brothers were expecting."

Yellow banners bearing messages such as "May Allah bless you on your mission" adorned the streets of this sprawling town, resulting in an almost surreal atmosphere of tension mixed with gay festivity as thousands of Muslims mingled with about 300 heavily-armed Bangsa Moro fighters who had motored with Misuari all the way from Mainbong town, 14 kilometers from Jolo proper, to attend the meet.

Elsewhere, along the various streets of the city, some 3,000 Marines, Army and Constabulary elements--not counting the personal security people of Mrs Aquino, Enrile and Ramos--were also detailed to provide security to the president.

Amidst this gathering of bristling weaponry and fatigue uniforms, hundreds of town folk and people from the outlying towns who had converged into this town as early as Monday, lined the streets, dressed in brightly-colored ethnic costumes, headgears and waving gaily-colored flags to greet Mrs Aquino.

Prior to the holding of the peace talks, President Aquino made it clear that she was not leaving any door open to any secessionist move by the Muslim rebels. "No portion of the republic shall secede," she said.

Mindanao, according to her, belongs to all, whether Christian or Muslims. "It belongs to the republic, to our heroes who fought and died for the republic."

The president was met enthusiastically by the Muslims. On her way to the town proper of Jolo, she was greeted by hundreds of local residents who lined the streets to catch a glimpse of her.

Until the arrival of the president, very few knew of the conference venue as there were apprehensions that the talks would be sabotaged.

There were also those who felt that the president's act of going down south to meet Misuari was not just a big security risk, but was also a violation of protocol.

But the president could not be dissuaded. Executive Secretary Joker Arroyo explained that Mrs Aquino "would do anything, could go any length, visit any place and forget about protocol if this could contribute to achieving peace."

Arroyo said if the president decided to go to Jolo to meet Misuari, it is because "she wants to do her part as well as her best in finding a solution to the Muslim problem." Reported to be equally amenable to providing an immediate end to the 14-year-old Mindanao conflict was Misuari.

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PHILIPPINES

REPORTAGE ON CONCOM ACTIVITIES, RESOLUTIONS

Nationalist Proposals on Economy Approved

HK041115 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 4 Sep 86 p 24

[Article by Tara S. Singh]

[Text] After 20 days of tumultuous debate, the Constitutional Commission [Con-Com] last night approved on second reading by a vote of 26-9 with three abstentions the controversial article on national economy and patrimony of the proposed 1986 Constitution.

The approval came after threats of resignation by Commissioner Castro and heated argument between commissioners Christian Monsod and Serafin Guingona.

The Con-Com's approval is, however, subject to a "gentlemen's agreement" that parliamentary rules will be suspended so that new amendments can still be submitted and the approved provisions can still be reviewed.

Included in the approved article are two of six amendments proposed by the nationalist bloc. The first provides that "the State shall regulate and exercise authority over foreign investment within its national jurisdiction and in accordance with the national goal and priorities."

The second amendment states, "Congress shall enact measures that will encourage formation and operation of enterprises whose capital are wholly-owned by Filipinos."

Commissioners Minda Luz Quesada, Felicitas Aquino and Jose Luis Gascon, the authors of the new approved section, said this will lead to selective foreign investments and allow Filipinos to learn to stand on their own.

In effect, foreign investments will play a secondary role and must be divested in a given period.

After much debate punctuated by intricate parliamentary rulings, the Con-Com voted to approve the 25 sections of the economic provisions despite the strong objections of Commissioners Jose Suarez, Rene Sarmiento, Felicitas Aquino and Serafin Guingona to defer approval until emotions and tensions subside.

The Suarez group asked for postponement of the second reading balloting until after clean copies of the article are printed and distributed.

At the start of yesterday's session, the nationalist bloc presented six amendments which will "Filipinize" ownership of public utilities, democratize distribution of wealth and protect local industries. All of these were rejected, except for two.

Commissioner Bernardo Villegas, chairman on the committee on national economy and patrimony, said, "The article as approved on second reading is an organic whole that clearly pinpoints the private sector as the engine of economic progress, with the government playing as subsidiary, though very vital role, in promoting social justice when the common good so dictates. It is filled with pro-Filipino provisions without sounding xenophobic. There is the clear aspiration for self-reliance and independence of the economy, without denying the existing critical need for foreign assistance in the form of loans, investments and other funds from both public and private sources abroad. One of the last provisions approved concerns the regulation of the state of foreign investments."

Some highlights of the approved article are:

- 60-40 ratio of Filipino ownership in public utilities and in the exploration of natural resources.
- Certain areas of investment will be limited by Congress.
- Repudiation of the policy of protectionism of some local industries.

Ople on MNLF Concessions

HK090603 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 7 Sep 86 pp 1, 12

[Text] Constitutional Commissioner Blas F. Ople said yesterday the draft constitution which provides for regional autonomy for Muslim Mindanao offers a general framework for permanent peace but, he cautioned government negotiators, "it also sets the limits of concessions that can be granted to the Moro National Liberation Front."

Ople, a proponent of the Muslim and Cordillera autonomy in the new constitution, was reacting to a statement attributed to MNLF chieftain Nur Misuari. He was not bound by a constitutional provision that did not bear the mandate of the Bangsa Moro people.

"Once the constitution is ratified and Congress passes the organic act, as mandated, the autonomy will bind the entire Filipino people although its framework is broad enough to give both sides the flexibility in negotiations towards a permanent peace and unity in Mindanao," Ople said.

He said that in accordance with the autonomy provisions, President Aquino shall appoint a regional consultative commission to help Congress formulate an organic act for the autonomous region.

The draft constitution gives Congress 18 months from the time of its organization to enact the organic law which "will grant a genuine measure of self-determination for Muslim Mindanao within the framework of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Philippines."

Ople said, however, that the creation of the autonomous region shall be effective only "when approved by majority of the votes cast by the constituent units in a plebiscite called for the purpose."

Only provinces, cities, and geographic areas voting favorably in such a plebiscite "shall be included in the autonomous region."

The autonomous region shall have legislative powers over administration, organization, creation of sources of revenues, ancestral domain and natural resources, personal, family, and property relations, regional urban and rural planning, economic, social, and tourism development, education policies, preservation and development of the cultural heritage, and such other matters as may be authorized by law for the promotion of the general welfare.

Ople said the draft constitution states that the defense and security of the region shall be the responsibility of the national government "but the responsibility for peace and order is vested in local police forces "which shall be organized, maintained, supervised, and utilized in accordance with applicable laws." [quotation marks as published]

The former labor minister and member of parliament from Bulacan said one of the major items on the peace agenda between the Aquino Government and the MNLF will be the issue of a regional security force demanded by Misauri, consisting of MNLF troops under an MNLF commander and able to operate with sufficient autonomy from the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] although part of its table of organization.

"The Constitutional Commission excised the regional security force from the committee text presented by Jose Nollado, but I do not see that as an inflexible barrier, provided the AFP can supervise and enforce the laws applicable under the new Constitution," Ople said.

Ople said three Muslim commissioners, namely, former senator Domacao Alonto of Lanao, educator Lugum Uka of Maguindanao, and former Ambassador Yusuf Abubakar of Sulu took a leading role in the effort to grant autonomy to Muslim Mindanao through the new constitution in support of the committee on local governments headed by Nollado.

Ople said Misuari should appreciate the "statesmanship and the foresight" of the Constitutional Commission enshrining Muslim autonomy in the new draft constitution, despite great odds.

He said there was initially a strong opposition to granting autonomy to any specific region, except as a general principle, but the dogged leadership of Nollado and the Muslim commissioners "overrode the resistance."

Ople on ConCom Issues

HK081307 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 8 Sep 86 pp 1, 12

[Article by Olaf Giron]

[Text] Opposition leader Blas F. Ople said yesterday the Constitutional Commission (Con-Com) "will not be stampeded into meeting any deadline for the convenience" of President Aquino's official visit to the United States.

"The commission feels it is not consistent with its dignity and its independence to be suiting its calendar of business to the convenience of both President Aquino and President Reagan," Ople said.

The former labor minister pointed out in a statement that most of the Con-Com members were against "any kind of linkage" between the Aquino state visit and its timetable for deliberations, especially concerning the issue of American military bases here and neutrality.

Ople said this sentiment has grown gradually on the Con-Com members after several of them raised the subject in a caucus as a possible source of embarrassment for the constitution itself.

He said the commission's leadership, consisting of President Cecilia Munoz Palma, Vice President Ambrosio Padilla, floor leaders Napoleon Rama, and the steering committee led by Jose P. Bengzon can still call the issue for debate before the departure of the president.

But this should be done, he said, "only in the normal course, and without invoking extraordinary procedures, such as the suspension of the rules."

"Otherwise many members of the commission will feel that its independence of action will be infringed," he said.

Ople, who is the chairman of the Partido Nacionalista ng Pilipinas (PNP), expressed belief that the constitution now being drafted "will be a significant improvement, in nearly all respects, on the constitutions of 1935 and 1973, with a powerful impetus towards justice, stability and peace."

Ople said "the sense has been growing" among many commissioners that the draft constitution's declaration of principles, section 3 of which contains the prohibition of foreign military bases and a declaration of neutrality, "cannot be the place for settling an issue considered of paramount importance by the Filipino people," and which should preferably be subjected to a separate plebiscite in 1988, when the five-year assessment and review of the bases agreement falls due.

He said he expects a majority of the commission to raise this as a pre-judicial question and dispose of it by deletion on the floor. The report of the committee on preamble, national territory and declaration of principles, headed by former Senator Decoroso Rosales, contains the prohibition of foreign military bases because it cleared the committee by a vote of 7-2.

"The government of the Republic of the Philippines, headed by President Aquino, should be allowed to keep its options until 1991," Ople said, adding that before that date the government can abrogate the bases agreement if it deems this course necessary to the national interest in the light of changing global and regional security configurations.

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PHILIPPINES

ENRILE URGES EDUCATION MINISTRY PROBE OF 'SUBVERSIVE LECTURE'

UP Students Visit Catholic Grade School

HK281315 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 28 Aug 86 p 9

[Article by Tony Pe. Rimando]

[Excerpts] The Ministry of Education, Culture, and Sports (MECS) yesterday ordered an investigation of a reported "subversive" lecture conducted recently by alleged radical student leaders in a prominent Metro Manila Catholic school.

The MECS' action came following information received by Education Minister Lourdes R. Quisumbing from Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile that several University of the Philippines [UP] student leaders with leftist leanings conducted an antimilitary lecture before grade school children of Saint Scholastica College at 2:30 p.m. on Aug. 22.

Education Deputy Minister Minda Sutaria, MECS officer-in-charge, said National Capital Region Education Regional Director Dr. Modesta Boquiren has been instructed to investigate.

In his memorandum to Quisumbing, Enrile said the UP student leaders, using the St. Scholastica Little Theater for their lecture, spoke on military atrocities, evidently "trying to brainwash the pupils of the Catholic school into hating the Armed Forces."

Enrile informed the education minister that the subversive lecture was apparently with the "tacit approval" of the school authorities, some of whom also allegedly attended the lecture with some members of the faculty.

Ministry Clears School of 'Brainwashing' Charge

HK291413 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 29 Aug 86 pp 1, 2

[Text] The Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports [MECS] yesterday cleared a private Catholic school in Manila of charges by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile that it is "brainwashing" students to make them hate the military.

In her report to acting Education Minister Minda Sutaria, Regional Director Modesta Boquiren said St Scholastica's College [SSC] on Leon Guinto St, Manila, did not violate any MECS rules and regulations when it allowed a delegation of Cagayan farmers to speak to grade schoolers on alleged military atrocities.

Boquiren, however, recommended that Education Minister Lourdes R. Quisumbing issue a memorandum advising school heads to exercise prudence in its extra-curricular activities "to preclude the occurrence of similar incidents where school activities cause misinterpretation by persons outside the education sector."

Enrile earlier accused school authorities of allowing suspected subversives to "brainwash" grade schoolers of SSC on alleged military atrocities.

Boquiren said the school authorities did not force the pupils to attend the symposium on the Cagayan farmers problems.

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PHILIPPINES

COMMENTARIES, REACTION TO CEASE-FIRE PROGRESS

Mitra Criticizes Enrile's Comments

HK041415 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 4 Sep 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by Eni Sd Perez]

[Text] Agriculture Minister Ramon V. Mitra Jr. yesterday joined rebel emissaries in accusing Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile of jeopardizing ongoing negotiations to peaceably end the 17-year communist insurgency.

Mitra, one of three government representatives to the peace talks, took Enrile to task for disclosing to newsmen the proposed security guarantees, immunities, and other matters submitted by the emissaries of the National Democratic Front [NDF].

The NDF, a leftist alliance led by the Communist Party of the Philippines, had requested that its proposals be kept secret for the time being.

Former newsmen Antonio Zumel and Satur Ocampo, the communist emissaries, warned that President Aquino's peace initiative may "come to naught" because of Enrile and other unnamed officials.

"If certain officials of the Aquino Government who have to do with the peace talks are bereft of good faith and continue behaving... [as published] we are truly sorry to say that current efforts toward lasting peace in our land may come to naught", Zumel and Ocampo said in a press statement.

Enrile, who expressed doubts about the outcome of the peace talks, revealed Monday an attempt by the NDF to attain a "status of belligerence" through its proposed agreement. Conferment of such a status on the NDF, Enrile said, would allow the outlawed organization to set up embassies here and abroad and draw international attention to its cause.

Enrile likewise said the insurgency problem can only be solved through military means. "Let us give peace a chance," Mitra said, who appealed to one and all to stop talks and speculations about the progress of the cease-fire negotiations.

Mitra said the negotiating panels of both sides are "better left alone for a while." Both Mitra and the rebel emissaries expressed impatience over the slow progress of the talks.

Zumel and Ocampo said they submitted the draft agreement to Mitra as early as August 18. "We have been waiting for more than two weeks now and still have to receive the government negotiators' written comments," they said.

They denied having any intention of keeping their proposals from the public, adding that they had proposed publication in full of their draft agreement in at least two newspapers.

Beltran on Government Failure

HK041417 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 3 Sep 86 p 4

["Straight from the Shoulder" column by Luis D. Beltran: "Bending Over Backwards"]

[Excerpts] One of the major failures of the Aquino Administration is its handling of the insurgency problem. From the day it took over, the administration has followed a policy of negotiating peace from a position of weakness. While there were no prospects of peace under Marcos, there were at least military readiness to meet the threat. Under President Aquino, that military preparedness has been frittered away aided in part by the factionalism of the Armed Forces resulting from the February Revolution.

The fact is that the Communist Party and its sympathizers have prospered under the Aquino Administration. Its members, or at least, its sympathizers are now among the most powerful cabinet ministers in the land, and they have bent over backwards to accommodate all the demands of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] and its front organizations. The results, as can be plainly seen, is that the administration is proffering the olive branch, while its armed forces cower under a withering fire of Armalite bullets, its initiative suppressed by administrative handcuffs.

When 15 soldiers die in an ambush--and more are dying right now--and the NPA has the temerity to issue a statement justifying the massacre as punishment for ceasefire violators, it is time the government flexed its muscle. Right now, all the initiatives in the negotiations come from the CPP-NPA side. It seems as if they are dictating all the terms. Have they already won the war, or has this administration already surrendered that it must accept these terms? One of those terms, according to a dossier in the hands of Defense Minister Juan Ponce-Enrile, is that a permanent negotiation site must be established in Manila for the cease-fire talks, in front of which building, the Philippine flag and the Communist hammer and sickle must be flown side by side.

If that is true, and the government refuses to release any details on the CPP-NPA demands, then what the CPP-NPA is after is "belligerent party" status. In other words, they will gain legitimacy before the international community, and status before all the Filipinos.

That the Aquino Administration is even considering such terms may be enough reason to trigger off some sectors of the military to destabilize it.

President Aquino may be a simple housewife with six months experience in being president, but it should be amply clear to her that some of her advisers have led her to an untenable position of being on the same side as the CPP-NPA—and against her very own soldiers. Where on earth can you find a situation where Communist leaders can announce that the military is about to institute a coup d'etat against their commander-in-chief—and in the same breath announce that the New People's Army will protect her? The president should definitely re-examine the position of the government, because where it finds itself today could turn out to be a political minefield.

Cacho-Olivares Remarks

HK041411 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 4 Sep 86 p 4

["My Cup of Tea" column by Ninez Cacho-Olivares: "How To Fail by Really Trying"]

[Text] Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, speaking before some 1,500 air force personnel at Villamor Air Base last Monday, blasted away at the negotiators for the NDF-CPP [National Democratic Front-Communist Party of the Philippines]-NPA, accusing them of trying to "pull a fast one" on the Aquino Government by including "tricky conditions" allegedly being imposed on the government by the rebels. Some of the "tricky conditions," were disclosed by Mr Enrile.

According to him, the NDF wants to be known as the representative of the Filipino people's revolutionary forces. As far as I know, the NDF, the umbrella of the underground groups, does represent the Filipino people's revolutionary forces. If the CPP, the NPA and the other councils aren't objecting to the NDF as their representative why should the good minister object? But as interpreted by Mr Enrile, this NDF "demand" means that the communists are already arrogating the "right to represent the Filipino people in dealing with (the Aquino) government. One will have to agree that the "Filipino people" and the Filipino people's revolutionary forces" are two different things.

Furthermore, Mr Enrile said that the rebels want the agreement to be witnessed by two foreign ambassadors mutually acceptable to both parties and that the agreement be registered at the United Nations which, as Mr Enrile again claimed, will now assume the "character of a treaty between the government under Mrs Aquino and the National Democratic Front." He further claimed that the NDF demanded that their own flag be displayed alongside with the Filipino flag.

The NDF-appointed lawyers reacted the next day by issuing a statement to the press, rebutting, point by point, the Enrile statements. Romeo Capulong and Arno Sanidad said that the proposals denounced by the defense minister were contained in a "mere working draft" currently under discussion and revision by panelists from both sides; that Mr Enrile distorted certain portions of the draft and took others out of context.

The lawyers added that nowhere in the draft does it state that the NDF flag, which Mr Enrile "mistakenly thought to be the hammer and sickle flag" is to be displayed alongside the Philippine flag; that the NEF "is not using the peace talks for any agreement relating to it as a means to achieve a belligerency status." They however, agreed with Mr Enrile that the NDF is negotiating as a political representative of the Filipino people's revolutionary forces, but clarified that these include all organizations, councils, bodies and individuals comprising the NDF, the CPP and the NPA.

Moreover, they accused Mr Enrile of a "breach of agreement" for disclosing the specific provisions of the draft agenda of the peace talks and cited a 17 August letter of Satur Ocampo to Ramon Mitra which said in part that "a public discussion of the matter might prejudice an early agreement and delay the progress of the talks, an early settlement and delay the talks toward the substantive questions."

On that same day, the Conservatives reacted to the Enrile spiel and, in a nutshell and in an almost holier-than-thou manner, cried out--how dare these Reds demand such conditions from the Aquino Government! Almost every Conservative "rightist" skirted the crux of the matter--was Mr Enrile, being a cabinet member in the Aquino Government, being discreet or indiscreet; was he right in disclosing to the soldiers and the public at large what he termed as "tricky" NDF proposals, considering that peace negotiations were being conducted? Did he not, as an official member of the Aquino Government, breach an agreement?

To my mind, the public disclosure of Mr Enrile was a reckless breach of agreement. Furthermore, what he did was thoroughly uncalled for, unless he, and the individuals who leaked the NDF draft to him, want to totally derail the peace talks.

If Mr Enrile and his "deep throat" in government, after getting hold of the NDF draft agreement, were truly supportive of the Aquino Government's policy to talk peace and seriously concerned in warning the government about the NDF-CPP-NPA negotiators' tricky conditions, they could have done so in private briefings with the president and her negotiators, but not in front of a thousand soldiers and the press. If Mr Enrile had thought that the extreme left, by including certain proposals, was working towards belligerency status, he could have pointed this out to Mrs Aquino in private, submitted his position and recommendations and left it for the government negotiators to hammer this out with the NDF panel.

There was absolutely no justification for a member of the cabinet, while peace negotiations are ongoing, to publicly disclose so-called proposals from a highly confidential draft. It is a most irresponsible act from a member of the Aquino Government.

Trust is an essential ingredient in the ongoing peace talks. Both parties want to negotiate from a position of strength. Both are expected to come up with preliminary proposals that are mutually beneficial to them. Conditions—whether preposterous or reasonable—are not expected to be accepted or rejected outright by either side.

Otherwise, what need is there for emissaries from the government and the rebel camps to meet and negotiate?

The Aquino Government, while saying that it wants to succeed at peace negotiations, has unfortunately shown too much indiscretion. It has always been the government, through its emissaries, Mr Enrile and the high command of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines], that has divulged to the general public too much of what is going on at the peace talks. And it hasn't stopped. One morning daily said that a government negotiator predicted the collapse of the peace talks within two weeks. A columnist of the same daily quoted Ramon Mitra as saying that the "terms proposed by the rebel group were [words indistinct] that, if the government should have to reply to them, "it would merely harden our positions" It shocks me that Mr Enrile publicly announced the "tricky conditions" which were deemed confidential. It also shocks me that a government emissary, tasked to conduct negotiations under confidential conditions, would publicly let out such sentiments to the media.

But perhaps we, the people, are getting it all wrong. Perhaps the government is just playing a game, playing up to the Filipino for sympathy and support when war is declared on the insurgents. Perhaps Mrs Aquino can't even control her government emissaries and her defense minister.

Or perhaps the goal of the Aquino Government is not to succeed but to fail at peace talks. Perhaps it is all a case of achieving failure—by really trying.

Bigornia on Reactions to NDF Terms

HK041349 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 4 Sep 86 p 6

[Column by Jesus Bigornia: "Aquino Peeved With Slow Pace of Peace Talks"]

[Text] Malacanang admits President Aquino is peeved with the slow pace of peace talks with the communist rebels. What the Malacanang source should have said was that the presidential temper was triggered by the temerity and audacity of a memorandum of agreement that National Democratic Front (NDF) negotiators Satur Ocampo and Antonio Zumel laid down as a pre-condition to the holding of negotiations. Not substantive proposals for the cessation of hostilities, the terms and conditions constituted a virtual ultimatum on the government to surrender to a communist takeover.

It is revealing that the president could get impatient with the rebel negotiators. Her flash of temper should dispel suspicions that she is temporizing with the leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), including those she sprung from military detention at the inception of her tenure in office. Perceptive Filipinos should now rest assured that, with her patience wearing thin, she could let loose the full might of the New Armed Forces of the Philippines (NAFP) on the rebels.

The NDF memorandum submitted to the government negotiation panel now headed by Agriculture Minister Ramon V. Mitra would—besides according rebel negotiators, security personnel and their staff unhampered movement anywhere in the Philippines for the duration of the talks—calls for government recognition of the CPP and its military arm, the New People's Army (NPA), as belligerents enjoying all the rights and privileges due them under international law.

Fortunately for the Aquino administration, Minister Mitra, no slouch in diplomatese, having covered the diplomatic and political beats during his younger days, understood the implications of the terms the rebel panel wanted him to sign. He balked, excusing himself by pointing out that he had to consult President Aquino who was then preparing for visits to Jakarta and Singapore. Erstwhile journalism colleagues Ocampo and Zumel were disappointed but they saw the logic in Mr Mitra's hesitancy.

Sources claim the military and defense establishments, meaning Armed Forces chief of Staff General Fidel V. Ramos and Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, got wind of the rebel memorandum. They recommended outright rejection, it is reported. In sports parlance, the ball is now in Malacanang's court. Rejection would almost certainly break the talks off and dash the president's peace initiative to smithereens. But acceptance would confirm in the eyes of the non-communist countries the suspicion that the present regime is drifting toward an accommodation with the communists. A classic case of damned if she does, and damned if she doesn't.

Like a footnote to communist contempt for government, Prof Jose Ma. Sison, founder of the CPP, is virtually instructing the president to demand the dismantling of Clark Air Base, home of the United States 13th Air Force, and Subic Naval Facility, base of the U.S. Seventh Fleet. Left-leaning allies in the media and the clergy have added their voices to this cause. Indeed, the communist pressure on the administration to remove all vestiges of the American presence in this country continues to build up. It is putting the nettle of Mrs Corazon Aquino to the test.

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CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

DAILY VIEWS REBEL PRECONDITIONS TO CEASE-FIRE

Rebel Good Faith Urged

HK011222 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 31 Aug 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Precondition to a Ceasefire"]

[Text] In agreeing to hold ceasefire talks, the government assumed that the negotiators have control over the insurgency movement or have been granted the power to agree to a ceasefire pending negotiations.

If the negotiators have neither control nor power, the talks will be fruitless, for it may happen that fighting will go on even though the two panels have already agreed on a ceasefire.

But it is preferable that the ambushes and the raids stop even before the parties agree to a ceasefire. The cessation of hostilities before an agreement is reached is necessary in order to show good faith. An agreement is easier reached when there is a show of good faith than when there is none.

It may be argued that each side should carry on the fight until an agreement is reached in order to gain an advantage over the other.

That may be true if some definite piece of territory is being contested. Here, no particular real estate is involved.

From the start of the new administration, it has shown its good faith in dealing with suspected communists. It ordered the release of some prominent detainees who had been incarcerated for years. It also gave freedom to a number of "political detainees" and is planning to free more. This gesture should be reciprocated even before the ceasefire talks start in earnest so that the rebel movement can show that it shares the humanitarian concerns of the president.

It might be useful to note that the President's attitude toward the rebellion and individual rebels influences the nation. Any act or gesture that contradicts her humanitarian attitude is likely to be unpopular.

Rebels 'Demand Too Much'

HK011226 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 31 Aug 86 p 6

[Column by Jesus Bigornia: "Grant of NDF Terms Can Only Mean Surrender"]

[Excerpt] An impasse in the so-called "peace talks" is leading the citizenry to ask if government did not blunder when it entered into negotiations with the country's communists. By making overtures for a dialog, the Aquino regime gave the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and the outside world the impression that the government has been so weakened by the 17-year-old rebellion that it would pay any price for peace. And, taking advantage of the perceived enfeebled government condition, the CPP and its allies are even now dictating terms. Equally significant are the expressions of concern by Philippine allies.

While the national leadership may not be so bereft of the will to do battle with the communist menace that it buckles under the rebels' conditions, it is also anxious to end the bloodletting and massive population dislocation that have plagued the Philippine countryside and stymied development and return to normalcy. True to a campaign promise, President Aquino sent out feelers for talks with the dissidents little realizing that her offer of peace would be mistaken as a sign of weakness.

For a starter, National Democratic Front (NDF) negotiators Satur Ocampo and Antonio Zumel have reportedly demanded issuance of transferable safe conduct passes to them, their staffs and security personnel, stipulating untrammelled movement anywhere in the country. Secondly, they accept the selection of Manila as the principal venue for formal negotiations, with the government providing the needed security arrangements. They reserve the right, however, to designate other areas "under the control of the NDF" as supplementary sites for future talks. Thirdly, the rebels demand the right to fly the red communist flag opposite that of the republic whatever and whenever the talks are in progress. Lastly, the dissidents insist on the registration of all agreements with the United Nations.

Grant of the rebel negotiators' demand would be tantamount to the government surrendering the State to the communists. By conceding the designation of a special site for negotiations, the rebels are assuring themselves of propaganda victories. Unfurling the hammer and sickle flag would give the NDF, the administrative arm of the CPP, official recognition the communists have long sought. Equally damaging to the Philippine image abroad would be government agreement to holding in the areas claimed as under NDF control. Holding such talks in small rebel-held pockets would be giving the world the impression that they already control vast areas of the countryside effectively.

Registry of agreements with the United Nations would accord belligerent status to the New People's Army (NPA) and treatment of its personnel as combatants, with the rights and privileges as stipulated in various documents adopted by the world organization. In short, the Aquino regime is now asked to invest the NDF with the same status as the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) now enjoys. The consequence would be two parallel governments contending for the minds and hearts of Filipinos, sometimes peacefully, but also more often violently.

PHILIPPINES

CEBU COUNTERINSURGENCY ACTIVITIES, POSSIBLE TALKS REPORTED

HK011312 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 1 Sep 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by Abe Licayan]

[Text] Cebu City—One more commander of the New People's Army was killed and another captured as government troops pressed the insurgents in Cebu's hinterlands, while civil and military officials prepared for possible low-level ceasefire talks with the rebels.

Local leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines in a press statement, expressed willingness to take part in local peace negotiations, while the NPA in Cebu condemned the military and police in a separate statement for launching counterinsurgency operations.

The NPA warned of more vicious counterattacks against military and police units by armed city partisans and other guerrilla groups.

The 7th Regional Unified Command headquarters bared a report from a military command post in the mountains of Balamban in Cebu's West Coast, that a rebel commander was killed and another captured.

A joint army-constabulary team reportedly engaged in a rebel band in a 30 minute gunbattle in Sitio Gapu, Barangay Matun-og of Balamban, Saturday.

The slain rebel leader was identified only as "Commander Soping," said to be among the 50 raiders who attacked the Tuburan townhall last 20 August and killed three policemen. The captured insurgent was not identified.

Since two weeks ago, the intensified counterinsurgency operation by military, police and paramilitary units, reinforced by battle-tested Scout Rangers, accounted for at least five dissidents killed and 22 others, including NPA Sparrow unit members, captured.

Some of those captured told investigators that several of their companions were wounded in a series of encounters with government troops in Cebu's hinterlands during the past two weeks.

More than 40 people, mostly soldiers and policemen, have been killed by rebels in attacks on military and civilian targets in the past few months.

Political Affairs Minister Antonio Cuenca and Deputy Local Government Minister Inday Nira Cortes Daluz were to meet with local civilian officials last night to discuss the government position on ceasefire talks with local rebel representatives.

Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, Archbishop of Cebu, had proposed the local level ceasefire dialogues.

CPP-Cebu spokesman Tomas Magtanggol lauded Vidal in a press statement for his proposal. He said the CPP "is open for cooperation with the religious people in building a peaceful independent and progressive Philippine society."

In a separate press statement, the NPA provincial operational command demanded a stop to counterinsurgency operations and warned of counterattacks by armed city partisans and other units against selected military and civilian targets.

The statement was signed by Roger Garcia, NPA provincial command spokesman. "The NPA will never tolerate counterinsurgency operations without launching counterattacks," Garcia said.

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

KYODO INTERVIEWS NDF NEGOTIATOR OCAMPO

OW040511 Tokyo KYODO in English 0436 GMT 4 Sep 86

[Article by Oliver Teves]

[Text] Manila, 4 Sep (KYODO)--Mutual distrust and suspicion between the Philippine military and the communist-led insurgents imperil the current peace initiative by the government of President Corazon Aquino to end 17 years of rebellion.

The left-wing coalition National Democratic Front (NDF), which represents the rebels in the peace talks, doubts whether Aquino has enough control over the military to make it abide by decisions and agreements with the rebels which the government civilian negotiators may make.

In a recent interview with KYODO News Service, NDF negotiator Satur Ocampo said they are willing to hold the talks for as long as Aquino wants a peaceful settlement to the armed conflict.

He added, however, that the NDF would like to see Aquino take "concrete steps" to show that she wants to pursue the talks and suggested that she first give the government panel "a written authority that it can speak and make commitments for the Aquino Government, including the Armed Forces of the Philippines."

Ocampo said that the NDF also wants Aquino, as president and commander-in-chief, "to assert her political authority" by determining military policy rather than leaving it to Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Armed Forces Chief Gen Fidel Ramos.

"Maybe many people say that Mrs Aquino is not knowledgeable on military matters so she leaves them to Minister Enrile and Gen Ramos," Ocampo said. "Now, the danger is that if she allows it that way, and with the very distinct, diverse views being expressed by Minister Enrile, we have a divided position in the government."

He said the confusion regarding the military policy is shown by the military's interpretation of Aquino's instruction to government troops to maintain a "defensive" posture during the talks.

Ocampo said the Armed Forces are actually on the offensive and have deployed 63 out of their 81 combat battalions against the NPA.

"Until now, President Aquino has not clarified, has not made a distinct interpretation of what she means by defensive," he said.

The 47-year-old former journalist said he had been "more optimistic" at the start of the peace efforts, adding that his optimism has been ebbing recently because of the "very evident obstacles" to the talks being put up by Enrile and military officials as well as the U.S. Government.

Enrile has openly said he is skeptical about the outcome of the talks and doubts that the rebels will give up their armed struggle. "That they (negotiators) will talk, there is no doubt about it. That the talking will result in something concrete and for the better is a big question mark," Enrile said in a speech before a women's group in Manila early in July.

The distrust between the military and the New People's Army (NPA) is rooted in the fierce guerrilla war in the Philippine countryside which had been intensifying in the last years of Ferdinand Marcos' presidency.

Church groups monitoring human rights violations in the countryside have reported that 67,000 rural families have evacuated their homes as a result of the fighting since 1981, when the NPA escalated its activities.

Aquino has predicted that with the ousting of Marcos in the Enrile-led civilian-backed military revolt last February, guerrillas of the NPA, the military arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), will "come down from the hills."

She said most of the rebels are not hardcore communists but were victims of abuses during the 20-year rule of Marcos, whom she regards as the No. 1 NPA recruiter.

Ocampo said, "there has not been any noticeable change" in the trend of NPA recruitment and expansion since the new government took over.

Ocampo explained that economic conditions have not improved for people in the Philippine countryside and neither have the armed forces changed the "operational direction" of their counterinsurgency program.

"The democratic space that has been available is mostly felt in Metro Manila and in other urban centers," he said.

"So if you take that as the situation, granting that the people got disgruntled because of the abuses of the military, the extreme continuing poverty, which is still there, the grounds for recruitment for the NPA remain unchanged," he said.

A cease-fire agreement in Davao del Norte province in Mindanao, southern Philippines, signed by civilian government officials and provincial NDF and NPA representatives was shattered last week when 15 soldiers and 5 rebels were killed in an ambush by guerrillas. The NPA claimed it acted in self defense against a military operation in the cease-fire zone and after warning the military not to proceed.

Military officers said the ambush showed that the NDF had no control over the guerrilla forces in the Philippine countryside and that the rebels were insincere.

Another civilian peace initiative in northern Mindanao, also in the southern Philippines, collapsed after the regional military commander, Brig Gen Mariano Adalema, said the NPA condition of retaining their arms was "unacceptable."

"It will just be a fruitless effort to work for a peace dialogue if it will be rejected by the military anyway," said Misamis Oriental Governor Vicente Emano last week.

Ocampo said that both regional peace efforts began long before the first meeting last 5 August was held between the NDF panel, which also includes former National Press Club President Antonio Zumel and government peace negotiator Ramon Mitra, the agriculture minister.

He said they have asked NDF and NPA units in the various regions to "give way" to the national-level peace talks. "We think that if we allow or encourage local or regional cease-fire, it would undermine the talks on the national level and may result in a disorganized approach to the problems."

The NDF wants to achieve "durable peace" not merely a temporary cease-fire, but Ocampo said this can be realized only after a "comprehensive political settlement" with the Aquino Government.

He said the political settlement will cover resolution of "fundamental political questions and the causes of the armed conflict. Such a comprehensive political settlement would involve political, economic and military questions," he said.

Among the "major questions" that the NDF wants to raise when formal talks begin is the removal of U.S. military bases in the Philippines. The issue is expected to result in a head-on collision between the insurgents and Enrile.

Aquino has said that she will keep her options open after the U.S.-Philippine military bases agreement expires in 1991. But Enrile openly favors the retention of the Clark Air Force Base and the Subic Naval Base, which are supposed to maintain the balance of forces in the southeast Asian region. The two bases, the largest American overseas military installations, are being hosted by the Philippines in exchange for U.S. economic and military aid.

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

NDF VERSION OF DAVAO DEL NORTE ENCOUNTER REPORTED

HK011246 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 1 Sep 86 pp 1, 6

[Text] The National Democratic Front yesterday urged President Aquino to create the climate for peace by curbing "ruthless military suppression campaigns" in the country side.

As the peace initiator, the president should look into the military campaigns to see if these conform to the aim of attaining peace, the NDF said in a press statement.

The NDF cited the 27 August Davao del Norte ambush as an example. It said the ambush was "deliberately provoked" by the Armed Forces, a "fact affirmed by Gov Prospero Amatong himself."

According to the NDF, similar provocation and aggression have been occurring not only in Mindanao but in other parts of the country.

Despite these alleged provocations, the NDF said its chief negotiators—former newsmen Antonio Zumel and Satur Ocampo—were ready to meet their government counterparts on the NDF proposal for safety and immunity guarantees submitted 19 August.

In a separate open letter, the NDF Southern Mindanao accused Col Marcelo Blando, commanding officer of the Scout Ranger Regiment, of allegedly violating the cease-fire agreement in Davao del Norte.

The NDF said Blando launched a massive military operation in the cease-fire area 27 August despite the agreed moratorium on such operations.

Military operations were launched in the towns of San Vicente, Asuncion, Ucorella, Maco and Montevista, all in Davao del Norte, the NDF said.

San Vicente and Asuncion are towns classified by the military as target areas for the immediate implementation of the peace agreement signed 14 August.

Last 27 August, the NDF said, a company-size formation of rangers had patrolled Barangay Dona Josefa, San Vicente, where an NPA guerrilla unit was holding a conference on the implementation of the cease-fire agreement.

The guerrilla unit "tried to avoid contact" with the rangers "who continued their action," NDF stressed. It added that the rebels were only forced to adopt "tactical active defense moves" against the maneuvering government troops to protect themselves and civilians in the area.

The "inevitable clash" resulted in the death of 30 rangers and two rebels, the NDF said. Three soldiers who surrendered were immediately released after they were disarmed, it added.

The NDF said documents seized during the encounter included a mission order issued by Blando to conduct coordinated military operations with the cease-fire zone.

"Blando must be punished for his disrespect for the peace policy of President Aquino and his unwarranted order of military action," the NDF said.

It also demanded that the government stop all military operations and immediately withdraw all military troops from the cease-fire area.

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

DESERTERS RECRUITED BY NPA RETURN TO INFILTRATE MILITARY

HK041343 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 4 Sep 86 p 8

[Article by Jose de Vera]

[Text] Some military deserters and renegades recruited by the New People's Army have returned to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) as spies or rebel infiltrators, an AFP source said yesterday.

The source said this became possible because of the lack of counterintelligence system in the AFP that will monitor the behavior and activities of returning soldiers and those occupying highly sensitive positions.

"Our so-called intelligence operatives have only been concentrating on the activities, operations, and the like, of the enemy but forgetting mounting secret counterintelligence operations on its own intelligence operations systems," he said.

He cited the recent raid of a cattle ranch in Cagayan Valley which was owned by Brig Gen (ret) Thomas B. Manlongat, then Constabulary Region 2 commander. The attack was traced lately to two disgruntled servicemen who had been recruited into the NPA but employed in the ranch, the source said.

In that raid, one of Manlongat's cowboys was killed as he fought the rebels. The raiders killed 38 cows. Two of the ex-soldiers who were also employed in the ranch "did not bother to shoot" at the raiders, he said. To cover up their identities and connections with the NPA, the source said, the raiders "kidnapped and took as hostages" the two infiltrators.

Another case cited was the NPA raid on a police station in Tuburan, Cebu. The police chief, two other policemen and a civilian were killed. The NPA raiders, the source said, were headed by a dismissed cadet of the Philippine Military Academy who assumed the name "Commander Nelson."

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

LIBERATION REVIEWS SAMAR REBEL PAPER

HK211445 (Clandestine) LIBERATION in English Jun 86 pp 17, 18

[Official international publication of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines]

[By Juan Picas]

[Text] In Waray, the word larab means "conflagration" or "blaze." In the three Samar provinces, it has acquired in recent years another meaning--a newspaper.

Peasants in the guerrilla zones of Samar are responsible for this evolution in word-meaning. Many of them have come to look upon the revolutionary publication LARAB, as their own mass newspaper.

Compared to modern standards of print media, LARAB is a simple and modest venture. It is mimeographed on newsprint sheets, eight-and-a-half by eleven inches; averages ten pages per copy, back-to-back printing; utilizes single color, black (red mimeo ink is used to emblazon the masthead); and comes out monthly with a circulation of 5,000 copies per issue. It is written entirely in Waray. Its readership consists mainly of the members of peasant, women's and youth organizations of the revolutionary movement in the Samar countryside.

Today, LARAB has become a major source of national and local news among a people who can barely afford to buy batteries for transistor radios. In the poor and underdeveloped areas of Samar, it is the only existing document on current events among the rural masses who usually change upon newspapers from the urban centers in its recycled form--as wrapping material of bought items. LARAB fills an information vacuum created by a social system which ignores the poor masses of peasants as a significant market for newspapers.

Two crucial factors brought about the initial success of LARAB as a mass publication: The profound political awareness created by the people's war among the peasantry and the resulting increased demand for information about the revolution. It was no accident, therefore, that the birth of LARAB coincided with the formation of a second guerrilla front in central Samar in 1977.

By 1981, the mass organizations, including the New People's Army (NPA), started supporting it through regular financial contributions. At present, LARAB is being sold at P0.5 to P1.5 a copy, depending on the financial capability of an organization. The average order of a barrio is 18 copies per issue which are usually channeled through the community groups. Most organizations either take out pre-paid subscriptions for six months or pay cash-on-delivery.

The growth of LARAB's popularity among the peasant folk is interesting. Since most of its audience never had the opportunity of finishing grade school, many peasant groups rely on an oral tradition much akin to story-telling. The popular practice is for a peasant organization to divide its members into several learning groups, each composed of six to ten members.

Each group has a designated reader who recites aloud the contents of LARAB. Discussion follows the reading of every article or poem. The members analyze the content and even clarify the actual meaning of words or phrases which they encounter for the first time. For instance, the word *barikada* [barricades] had to be explained at length considering that this form of protest action is unfamiliar to peasants in the Samar countryside.

NPA guerrillas, 90 percent of whom are of peasant origin, also employ the same oral reading method. In their case, they assign a reader for every squad, and oftentimes for an entire platoon. These readings complement the literacy classes formally conducted by guerrilla units for its members. Ka [Comrade] Mando, the political officer of "Kidlat" [Lightning] unit in the central front, plans to introduce the game of scrabble to further augment the formal classes on literacy.

Through the learning groups, other revolutionary publications such as *Ang Bayan*, [THE NATION] the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] organ, have acquired a regular following. But since LARAB preceded all other publications in the barrios, peasants call other publications like the NPA paper, *PULANG BANDILA* [RED FLAG] as LARAB. The word has become the generic term to describe a newspaper. In this blaze of popularity, the original LARAB intends to increase its circulation to 8,000 copies by the end of 1986. According to Ponyang, the editor of LARAB, the three districts in the central guerrilla front alone are requesting 3,000 copies.

No slick marketing strategy is behind the widening support for LARAB. Its popular acceptance is primarily due to the continuing progress of the people's war and the expansion of revolutionary mass organizations. Its audience likes it because its contents are relevant and pertinent to their lives. The editorial formula is unpretentious. New reports on developments in the revolutionary struggle and the current political situation; songs and poems from contributors; a parable providing lesson on sound theory and practice; a front-page editorial illustration; and a comic strip. The reportage stresses the anti-feudal and anti-fascist campaigns include successful negotiations with landlords to increase the tenants' share in farm produce, the elimination of usury in particular areas and the establishment of a cooperative store in a community. Anti-fascist activities include anti-militarization rallies as well

as sniping operations by the people's militia against abusive military troops and the elimination of spies and traitors with blood debts against the community.

To peasants who have been victims of institutional violence, the NPA's tactical offensive and execution of enemies who fail to heed the people's warnings are very important news. The ability of the guerrillas to strike at abusive soldiers in any given area provides the masses with a concrete measure for gauging the progress and extent of the revolutionary struggle. While the execution of spies and traitors may seem brutal to affluent city folk, to most peasants, it means the removal of insidious obstacles to the advancement of their efforts to liberate themselves from conditions of feudal exploitation and poverty. To them, the death of a notorious element usually means saving the lives of ten or a hundred more people from their family and neighbors. They have no illusions about revolutionary violence committed in defense of a just cause.

To increase LARAB's popular appeal, its staff must always conscientiously consider their largely peasant audience. Thus, the editorial illustration on the front page has become a requisite to help readers immediately understand the main story. The illustration must also be drawn in familiar forms, otherwise the artwork stands to be misunderstood. As Ponyang recounts, "Our artist once came up with a stylized drawing of a gasoline pump to dramatize the oil crisis. A reader who had never seen one before, mistook the rubber hose of the pump for a sawa, a python. The drawing was a grave mistake, since we proceeded from a reference point that was alien to the experience of our readers."

The readers are not also easy to please.

They complain about the delayed delivery of issues ("kaiha umabot") or blurred letters ("para-para an mga letra"). Others inquire about the fate of poems or luwa they submitted. Many have requested the printing of successful experiences of other peasant organizations on food production and health campaigns, from which they could derive practical insights. On one occasion, a reader complained that a comrade reported killed in a raid at San Jose de Panauagan was in fact only wounded. The reader happened to be a militia member who participated in the offensive.

Readers make their views and opinions known through a network of LARAB correspondents. Majority of them are based in the barrios and are usually members of the CPP branch. Their main tasks are to gather news data and receive feedback from the masses about LARAB. Information from the barrios are consolidated by the section correspondents at the municipal level. The consolidated reports are then relayed to district correspondents who review the reports for accuracy and newsworthiness, and transform the material into news items. The NPA also sends news items directly to the LARAB staff. The NPA correspondent, usually the political officer of a platoon, reports on tactical offensives and events in the barrios they visit.

District correspondents are usually high school graduates, with proficiency in Pilipino or English for translating revolutionary publications from other areas in the country. In 1983, the first training for district and NPA correspondents on "rebolusyonaryong peryodiko" [revolutionary periodicals] was held. A total of 18 participants attended the training which lasted for a month.

The newspaper training courses impart lessons on data-gathering and correspondence work, writing news reports, art work and mimeo production techniques. Also included in practicum work where the participants are fielded in barrios that serve as demonstration areas. The entire training program places a lot of weight on "mass work." Ponyang explained what this meant: "Even the regular staff must spend a considerable amount of time integrating with the masses. Because if you lack exposure, rust will creep into the quality of your work and you will fail to respond to the needs of your audience."

At present, the staff of LARAB consists of three full-time writers, including the editor, and two artists who also double as writers and mimeo operators. Articles on such subjects as united front activities and imperialism are translated from ANG BAYAN or LIBERATION. To facilitate research work, the staff has a small library complete with news clippings from the major urban dailies and a collection of visual aids for the artists. The writers type out the stencils for each issue. Five sets of stencils are made for reproduction centers scattered throughout the three guerrilla fronts in Samar. The stencils are delivered to these centers by couriers on foot; the farthest center is a week's hike through treacherous terrain from the LARAB staff's base deep in a guerrilla zone.

The logistics of LARAB are unenviable but interesting. The artist's table is made of boards from wooden boxes that used to contain dried fish. There was a time when the stylus they were using was improvised from a safety pin, with a handle carved from a tree branch. All the typewriters were donated by the NPA which confiscated these during raids on municipal halls.

Spare parts replacements for the typewriters are always a problem. In one typewriter, a thin sturdy vine and a rubber band have taken the place of the cable wire that moves the carriage. At one time, to the dismay of the staff, a chicken swallowed the tiny ball bearings from the guts of a typewriter which had been taken out for oiling. They waited for the chicken to defecate to recover the ball bearings.

Danger is also an integral part of the LARAB experience. Thrice in the course of its publishing life, LARAB was threatened with extinction when military operations came close to its base camp. At one time, the threat occurred when the staff was conducting a training course for district correspondents. But in all three cases, the peasant community warned them of the impending peril and assisted in evacuating their materials, once with the use of a carabao. The people's militia diverted the attention of the soldiers through sniping operations. A farmer even served as decoy to mislead the troopers. Said Ponyang, "The peasants have always protected us. They are our reason for being."

PHILIPPINES

MANILA FIRM ON DEADLINE FOR IMPORT LIBERALIZATION

HK041123 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 4 Sep 86 p 2

[Text] Government is standing pat on its 30 April 1988 deadline set for the import liberalization of all items now restricted from entering the country, Economic Planning Minister Solita C. Monsod said yesterday.

The trade liberalization program is an important pre-condition to the economic recovery loan the government is negotiating with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Of the 1,232 items in the program, 849 have been liberalized, leaving 383 items still being reviewed so that a new schedule of liberalization could be drawn up.

Monsod stressed that government has committed to the WB and the IMF that it will use the 90 days—or from last 31 July to 31 October—to review remaining items to determine the appropriate tariff levels for such items. Liberalization of items considered exceptional shall likewise be postponed.

But in no case will the liberalization of these "exceptional" items be effected later than 30 April 1988," Monsod asserted. "Government has not changed its stand on that. It's there."

Monsod explained that the agreement between government and the IMF-WB was that as the public hearings on the remaining items went on and as the items got resolved, "we would communicate progress on that to the WB and IMF."

But, she conceded, "no such progress has been communicated."

Monsod said that from the time the WB-IMF negotiations left, private consultations between the Ministry of Trade and Commerce and private industries were held on the issue. Neither the National Economic and Development Authority nor the Tariff Commission were in on those hearings, she said, placing both agencies in the dark as to the results of the private consultations.

"We've been asking for the results but we have not been given any yet. (The affected industries) just do not want to give their costs to justify the continued protection they want. I'm so afraid of this--they will tie the liberalization program with their capacity utilization. That would be a terrible mistake. They want demand to increase first and their increase in output to follow. That means everybody else has to work first."

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

GNP DROPS 2.23 PERCENT IN FIRST HALF OF 1986

HK041431 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 4 Sep 86 p 2

[Text] The country's total output of goods and services, or gross national product (GNP), adjusted for effects of price increases, dropped 2.23 percent in the first half of the year from the year-ago level, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) reported yesterday.

The decline was less than the 3 percent expected for the semester, Economic Planning Minister Solita C. Monsod, NEDA director-general, said in a report to President Aquino.

Real gross domestic product for the period dropped by 2.60 percent, as against a 6.62 percent decline during the first semester of 1985, the NEDA report said.

A private banker interviewed by BUSINESS DAY said the official figures show "we're still in a free-fall situation" but "we're falling more slowly now."

Another banker said, "compared to the worst, we didn't do so badly. We didn't move upward but we've fallen more slowly."

The NEDA report said that despite the problems that beset the recovery program—such as the delay in the government's emergency employment program—"positive indications were noted in the major sectors of the economy."

It said agriculture grew 1.33 percent and that, although manufacturing declined 1.17 percent in the first half of the year, an increase of almost 1 percent was registered in the second quarter.

Bankers expressed doubts about the NEDA growth figure for agriculture. "How can any sector grow if it's not exporting?" one asked. "How can agriculture grow if it's merely relying on the domestic market? Nobody's buying around here. There's no purchasing power. If there was growth, it must have been due to the export of agricultural products."

According to the NEDA report, a "substantial contraction" of the construction industry in the second quarter contributed to a first quarter decline of 37.30 percent in the industry's value-added. This also resulted in a 21.73 percent decrease in real investments, the report said.

A banker said the construction industry's performance "obviously reflects the fact that there are less goods being produced in the economy."

The NEDA said foreign trade improved from last year, with exports of goods and services increasing 14 percent while imports rose 19.82 percent.

The inflation rate during the first semester was recorded at 3.74 percent.

The NEDA reported personal consumption expenditure at P31.51 billion in the first semester, almost unchanged from P31.09 billion in the first semester of 1984 and P31.23 billion in the first half of last year.

"People are not producing as expected," the banker said, mainly because "investments are not in yet. People are still on a wait-and-see stance."

He said the recovery program will start to make headway when people will have summoned enough confidence to invest, which will require government action on the insurgency problem, the labor problem, and making known its overall direction.

The banker noted an improvement in that, whereas the past years had only "cronies and the non-cronies" and government spending for non-revenue generating projects, the new government is doing no such thing and there are at least two types of people: those who believe that investments should be made now so they can have a lead start when the economy picks up and those who still prefer to wait and see.

"We're slowing down in our rate of deterioration," he remarked. "The slump of our economy is deaccelerating."

Gross National Product and Gross Domestic Product by Expenditure Shares
1st semester 1984 to 1st semester 1986
(In million pesos)

Type of Expenditure	1984		At Current Prices		1986
			1985		
	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half	1st half
1. Personal Consumption Expenditure	168,567	236,132	288,831	257,098	235,293
2. Government Consumption	17,527	18,040	19,622	22,847	21,140
A. Compensation	10,014	11,111	11,639	14,243	13,186
B. Other Expenditures	7,513	6,929	7,983	8,604	7,954
3. Capital Formation	54,681	46,139	54,565	42,943	48,469
A. Fixed Capital	54,615	50,975	54,739	43,281	44,677

[Chart continued from previous page]

1. Construction	36,125	27,782	35,223	21,005	23,464
a. Government	11,951	8,156	11,851	6,845	10,769
b. Private	24,174	19,626	23,372	14,160	12,695
c. Durable Equip.	18,490	23,193	19,516	22,276	21,213
B. Increase in Stocks	66	-4,836	-174	-558	3,792
4. Exports	46,619	71,082	64,208	62,363	75,928
5. Less: Imports	49,095	69,287	55,105	53,401	56,689
6. Statistical discrepancy	20,041	-21,035	-4,226	-29,161	-20,576
Gross Domestic Product	258,340	281,071	307,895	302,689	303,565
Net factor income from abroad	-6,742	-6,369	-7,383	-7,558	-6,178
Gross National Product	251,598	274,702	300,512	295,131	297,387

Type of Expenditure	At Constant Prices				
	1984		1985		1986
	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half	1st half
1. Personal Consumption Expenditure	31,094	34,939	31,232	34,930	31,517
2. Government Consumption	4,359	3,896	4,082	4,123	4,107
A. Compensation	2,680	2,555	2,636	2,669	2,743
B. Other Expenditures	1,679	1,341	1,446	1,454	1,364
3. Capital Formation	9,216	6,635	7,169	5,447	6,120
A. Fixed Capital	9,209	7,332	7,193	5,521	5,554
1. Construction	5,785	3,661	4,418	2,490	2,742
a. Government	1,914	1,071	1,515	827	1,294
b. Private	3,871	2,590	2,903	1,663	1,448
2. Durable Equipment	3,424	3,671	2,775	3,031	2,812
B. Increase in Stocks	7	-697	-24	-74	566
4. Exports	9,669	11,177	9,968	9,383	11,364
5. Less: Imports	9,263	9,912	6,902	7,093	8,270
6. Statistical discrepancy	3,756	-2,352	982	-2,852	481
Gross Domestic Product	49,831	44,383	46,531	43,938	45,319
Net factor income from abroad	-1,304	-979	-1,029	-1,008	-830
Gross National Product	48,527	43,404	45,502	42,930	44,489

Source: National Economic and Development Authority

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

FOREIGN ASSETS DEFICIT DROPS 3.5 PERCENT

HK041121 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 4 Sep 86 p 3

["Economic Indicator" column: "Foreign Assets Deficit Down"]

[Text] The foreign assets deficit of the monetary system, consisting of the Central Bank [CB] and deposit money banks, amounted to P125,762.1 million in June, down 3.52 percent from P130,356.9 million in May but up 30.89 percent from P96,078.2 million in June last year, according to CB data.

The CB's deficit was P89,215.5 million, up only 0.42 percent from P88,838.7 million in May but almost double its year-ago level of P46,500.2 million.

The CB's liabilities, including foreign loans payable, totaled P122,843.2 million while its assets, including claims such as interest receivables from non-residents, amounted to P33,627.7 million.

Foreign assets of deposit money banks totaled P41,697.5 million as against foreign liabilities of P78,244.1 million. The deficit went down 11.97 percent to P36,546.6 million from P41,518.2 million in May and 26.28 percent from P49,578 million in June last year. The banks built up foreign assets while reducing their foreign liabilities.

Foreign Assets Deficit of the Mon System
January 1985 to June 1986
(In million pesos)

	Total	Central Bank	Deposit Money Bank
1986			
January	125,184.8	89,878.3	35,306.5
February	145,513.4	105,821.5	39,691.9
March	132,966.4	92,012.4	40,954.0
April	133,019.4	89,558.3	43,461.1
May	130,356.9	88,838.7	41,518.2
June	125,762.1	89,215.5	36,546.6

[Chart continued from previous page]

1985			
January	91,126.3	48,446.4	42,679.9
February	92,728.4	51,563.4	41,165.0
March	98,034.6	54,705.7	43,328.9
April	99,008.2	50,217.4	48,790.8
May	96,866.4	48,467.5	48,398.9
June	96,078.2	46,500.2	49,578.0
July	97,317.0	50,725.5	46,591.5
August	102,909.9	59,230.4	43,679.5
September	110,690.1	66,391.7	44,298.4
October	116,648.0	78,337.2	38,310.8
November	120,176.4	80,568.5	39,607.9
December	121,663.9	84,416.1	37,247.8

Source: Central Bank

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CSO: 4200/1422

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

MILITARY RULES REVISION—Camp Olivas, Pampanga—Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Armed Forces Chief Gen Fidel V. Ramos have favorably endorsed recommendations to amend or change various military rules, regulations and policies described as unfair to reserve officers. Some fraternal organizations within the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] comprising about 70 percent of its officers made the recommendations in their belief that a number of military policies were favorable only to graduates of the Philippines Military Academy (PMA). Col Lorenzo M. Mateo, chief of the Central Luzon PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] regional command said Enrile and Ramos have endorsed to President Corazon C. Aquino some of the recommendations of the fraternal organizations. The organizations include the Movement of Officer Volunteers for Equality and Reform in the Service (MOVERS), Movement of Naval Reserve Officers (MONRO), Crusaders of the Army, Integree-Reserve Officers Group (IROG) and Guardians. They all belong under the umbrella of Brotherhood of Officers Through Harmony, Equality and Reform in the Service (BROTHERS) headed by Mateo. [Text] [Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 4 Sep 86 p 24 HK] /9738

POLICE DISPERSE STRIKERS—Scores were hurt yesterday [9 Sep] when policemen dispersed striking workers of the Philex Corporation in Sitio Talipapa, Barangay (Deoteria) in Caloocan City. Police said home-made bombs were exploded and gunshots were heard but they were unable to determine how many people were injured. Patrolman Carlos (Que) was hit by glass splinters. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 9 Sep 86 HK] /9738

NAFP DISCORD DENIED—The New Armed Forces of the Philippines [NAFP] yesterday bewailed cases of intrigues and disinformation being waged by "certain sectors" to create an image of discord and divisiveness within the ranks of the military establishment. Brig Gen Antonio Samonte, deputy chief of staff for intelligence, issued this complaint following reports by military sources that certain members of the NAFP are actually New People's Army (NPA) spies planted inside the military. The reports maintained that the alleged NPA spies are made up of soldiers who deserted, joined NPA and then reenlisted. Samonte pointed out that while complete unity within the NAFP has yet to be achieved, "nowhere in the history of the Armed Forces has there been a case of treachery among its men." [Text] [Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 4 Sep 86 p 24 HK] /9738

CSO: 4200/1422

THAILAND

BRIEFS

CUBAN DELEGATION VISITS—Mrs Ana Maria Gonzalez Suarez, Manila-based Cuban ambassador to Thailand, led a Cuban delegation in a 3-4 day visit [length of visit as heard] to Thailand. The purpose of this visit was to exchange views on trade between the two countries and to hold talks with high-ranking officials of the trade sector and other relevant sectors in order to promote better relations between the two countries. The volume of trade between Thailand and Cuba continues to increase satisfactorily. Cuba has bought large quantities of rice from Thailand and there is a trend toward larger rice purchase in the years ahead. Cuba will likely become an important rice market for Thailand if Thailand and Cuba can develop good trade relations by organizing the exchange of trade delegations and signing trade agreements as is the case with other socialist countries in order to increase the volume of trade between the two countries. [Text] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Vietnamese 1330 GMT 3 Sep 86] /8309

CSO: 4209/848

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

HUN SEN RECEIVES SRV PARTY DELEGATION

BK270729 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Aug 86

[Text] On the afternoon of 26 August at the office of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee, Chairman of the party Central Committee's Foreign Relations Commission and of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs, granted an audience to a delegation of the CPV Central Committee's Foreign Relations Commission led by Comrade Phan Dinh Vinh, vice chairman of the CPV Central Committee's Foreign Relations Commission and of the SRV-PRK Friendship Association.

During that meeting permeated with atmosphere of most cordial friendship and solidarity, Comrade Hun Sen welcomed and highly valued the delegation's visit to Cambodia which contributes to further strengthening the bond of solidarity and all-round cooperation between the two countries, particularly in their party Central Committee's relations.

In his reply, Comrade Phan Dinh Vinh highly applauded the all-round development made by the Cambodian revolution during the past nearly 8 years, particularly in the current period when the authorities and people from all walks of life are joyfully striving to successfully implement the resolutions set forth by the fifth national representative congress. The comrade head of the delegation also expressed his firm conviction that the bond of solidarity and all-round cooperation, particularly in the field of party's foreign relations, between Vietnam and Cambodia will further strengthen and last forever.

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CSO: 4212/100

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

CHEA SOTH VISITS SRV TROOPS IN HOSPITAL

BK031126 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 2 Sep 86

[Text] On the 41st anniversary of the August Revolution and the 2 September national day of the SRV, a party-state-front delegation led by Comrade Chea Soth, member of the KPEP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of planning, visited cadres and combatants of the Vietnam Volunteer Army at hospital 122 and distributed gifts to them.

Chatting with the hospitalized soldiers, Comrade Chea Soth expressed most profound gratitude to them for sacrificing blood and flesh with great heroism in the cause of liberating the Cambodian fatherland and for continuing to defend the independence and peaceful life of the Cambodian people. He wished the cadres and combatants of the Vietnam Volunteer Army a prompt recovery so they can resume their tradition of proletarian internationalist solidarity in Cambodia, cooperating in smashing and crushing the enemies.

In his remarks, Comrade (Nguyen Te Banh) representing the wounded and disabled cadres and combatants thanked the party-state-front delegation for frequently visiting cadres and combatants at hospital 122. He stressed that this is a source of encouragement and enhancement for the special bonds of militant solidarity between Vietnam and Cambodia, bonds which are further strengthening, developing and consolidating with each passing day.

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SO: 4212/100

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

CHEA SOTH RECEIVES SRV LABOR MINISTRY DELEGATION

BK040817 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 4 Sep 86

[Text] On the afternoon of 3 September, Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and planning minister, received for talks a delegation from the Vietnamese Labor Ministry led by Comrade Dao Thien Thi, minister of the Vietnamese Labor Ministry, at the office of the Council of Ministers during the delegation's visit to Cambodia.

On this occasion, Comrade Chea Soth warmly welcomed the delegation's visit considering it as an important contribution to strengthening and expanding the relations and cooperation between the Finance Ministry [as heard] and the Vietnamese Labor Ministry.

Replying, Comrade Dao Thien Thi expressed profound thanks to our party and state for paying attention to creating conditions for the delegation's successful visit to Cambodia. The comrade affirmed that he will strive to strengthen further the cooperation and mutual assistance between the two countries in the field of salaried labor, considering their internationalist duties of the Vietnamese Labor Ministry.

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CSO: 4212/100

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

CHEA SOTH ATTENDS 7TH EDUCATION CONFERENCE CLOSING

BK261121 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] The Education Ministry closed the seventh national education conference at the Cambodian-Soviet Friendship Institute of Technology on 23 August after 5 successful days. Attending the closing ceremony were, among others, Comrade Chea Soth, member of the Political Bureau of the KPRP Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of planning; Comrade Sam Sundoeun, member of the KPRP Central Committee, acting secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Youth Union Provisional Committee, and chairman of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Association; Comrade Pen Navut, alternate member of the party Central Committee and minister of education; and several cadres from various ministries and offices at the central level and provincial and municipal educational delegations throughout the country.

During the 5 days of work of the conference, all conferees studied three important documents, namely labor training and vocational orientation in general education schools, the ideological, political, and revolutionary ethics training, and the management of provincial and municipal education service throughout the country. Through the discussion on and study of the three documents, participants of the conference summed up and spread all educational achievements, good experiences, and discoveries made by teachers and students during the 1985-86 school year. The conference also unanimously adopted the all-round assessment of the Education Ministry and the targets to be reached in the 1986-87 school year.

Based on the educational work at all levels, degrees, and sections in the past 1985-86 school year, the Council of Ministers decided to keep its revolving banner in the Education Ministry for another year and decided to confer 10 citation cards and letters on the education offices of Battambang Province, Phnom Penh City, and Kandal, Kompong Cham, Takeo, Pursat, Preah Vihear, Svay Rieng, Kratie, and Ratanakiri Provinces. At the same time, the Education Ministry also conferred six Education Ministry prize-winning banners on the education offices of Battambang, Phnom Penh, Kompong Thom, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, Stung Treng, and the secondary school of Phnum Kong, Kompong Cham Province for outstanding performance in the field during the 1985-86 school year. At the same time, the Education Ministry also conferred 416 citation cards and letters on provincial and municipal education offices, vanguard units, and model individuals having made good achievements during the same school year.

Addressing the closing ceremony, Comrade Chea Soth highly appreciated the efforts of educational cadres and personnel who in cooperation with the authorities, mass organizations, and the people have spared no efforts to overcome all immediate obstacles to fully shore up the educational sector, the common cause of the revolution. He stressed that though immense, this result has not yet met the urgent demands. Therefore, cadres and teachers, the immediate responsible authorities, must further intensify and deepen the educational work. In particular, management cadres of the educational sector must correctly implement the centralized democracy principles, have broad views of the masses, have scientifically disciplined working methods, and strive to carry out their tasks according to the resolutions of the Fifth Party Congress which stipulates that the new education must serve the cause of national defense and reconstruction with the view to creating well qualified new citizens who are constantly ready to serve the revolution.

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CSO: 4212/100

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

CHAN VEN GREET'S VIETNAMESE ANNIVERSARIES

BK040712 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 3 Sep 86

[Text] On the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the August Revolution and the 2 September National Day of the SRV, Comrade Chan Ven, chairman of the PRK-SRV Friendship Association, sent a congratulatory message to Comrade Pham Trung Co., chairman of the SRV-PRK Friendship Association. The message says in substance:

We would like to send you and all the comrades of the SRV-PRK Friendship Association and the fraternal Vietnamese people our warm congratulations and sincere and cordial sentiments. We are very touched by the great achievements scored by the fraternal Vietnamese people during the past 41 years. Currently, although Vietnam is going through some difficulties resulting from the destructive war of the imperialists for more than 30 years, a constant war waged by the Beijing Chinese hegemonists, and natural disasters of the past few years, we are convinced that the heroic and valiant fraternal Vietnamese people, under the clear-sighted leadership of the CPV, will score greater and new successes.

Like the Cambodian people throughout the country, we will remember and be grateful to the Vietnamese party, government, army volunteers, and people for wholeheartedly supporting and assisting the Cambodian revolutionary cause both materially and in flesh and blood. The entire Cambodian people, under the clear-sighted leadership of the KPRP, pledge to further build upon and hold aloft the relations of militant solidarity, special friendship, and cooperation in every field between Cambodia and Vietnam so that they blossom forever.

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CSO: 4212/100

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

PHNOM PENH SCORES THAI WORD-DEED CONFLICT

BK020930 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 1 Sep 86

[Station commentary: "Words and Deeds"]

[Text] Once again, public opinion was overwhelmed when on 22 August Sawanit Khongsiri, spokesman of the Thai Foreign Ministry, contended that Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila's 13 August remarks that Thailand would not allow its territory to be used to destabilize or subvert the governments of neighboring countries were taken out of context as they concerned only such countries as Burma, Malaysia, and Laos. This represents the reactionary nature of the Thai ultrarightist rulers who are always overtly opposed to the PRK, an independent and sovereign state.

For nearly the past 8 years, without Thai shelter, support, maintenance, and supply of arms and ammunition, the remnants of Pol Pot-Son Sann-Sihanouk bandits would not have been able to survive to the present. Again and again, Thailand has always given a helping hand to its lackeys and has directly been involved in an undeclared war against the PRK to sabotage the rebirth of the Cambodian people.

The Thai rulers have tried hard to keep the situation along the Cambodian-Thai border constantly tense. They have wantonly violated the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the PRK in the air, at sea, and on the ground and have fired artillery barrages to cause serious damage and destruction against the property and lives of innocent Cambodians along the border. Whenever they are harshly condemned by public opinion for their hostilities, the Thais have tried by all means and pretexts to distort reality by alleging instead that the Cambodian revolutionary armed forces and the Vietnamese volunteer forces have violated Thai territory. This is not the first time that the Thai have made such a shameless allegation. Last October, the Thai ultrarightist rulers contended that the Cambodian revolutionary army and the Vietnamese volunteer army captured three Thai soldiers from Thai territory. However, shortly after that, Thai Supreme Commander Athit Kamlang-ek frankly admitted that these Thai soldiers were taken prisoner in Cambodian territory when they were providing support for the Pol Pot bandit remnants who were infiltrating Cambodian territory. The Pan-Thai ambition has made them go berserk in perpetrating wrong deeds to the point of uttering wishfully that whenever the so-called CGDK side wins the victory, the Preah Vihear Temple will be declared a common heritage and when their lackeys become stable, this temple will be handled over to Thailand.

Recently, the Thai ultrarightist rulers brought pressure to bear on the ASEAN countries to support the 8-point proposal of the so-called CGDK, which is another new farce stage-managed by the Beijing expansionists and which, in reality, is merely a design to return the genocidal Pol Pot gang to Cambodia where they will again proceed with the massacre of the Cambodian people.

It is public knowledge that the Thai rightist clique continues to connive with the Beijing expansionists and U.S. imperialists in creating a stumbling block to the growing trend toward dialogue in the region. They have been fanning the flames of regional tension. Thai territory has been used by foreign forces as a stepping stone for expansion in Southeast Asia. As in the past, the Beijing [as heard] ruling circles have allowed their territory to be used as a military base by the Japanese militarists and U.S. imperialists for aggression against the three Indochinese countries. Lately, Thailand has permitted Beijing to use its territory to provide support for the reactionary Cambodians who are opposed to the peaceful existence of the Cambodian people.

Moreover, Thailand aggressed against and illegally occupied three villages of Laos' Sayabouri Province. Though Sithi Sawetsila loudly declared at the 39th UN General Assembly that Thailand would pull out all its troops from the three Lao villages, Thai troops continue to be present on Lao territory. They have ceaselessly rejected the goodwill of the Lao Government in wanting to negotiate for the settlement of all pending problems in order to reestablish relations between the Lao and Thai peoples.

Does all the above-cited irrefutable evidence accord with the deceitful excuses of the Thai rightist ruling circles? Like the rest of Indochina, the PRK has shown its constructive goodwill toward Thailand again and again in order to coexist as good neighbors on the principles of peaceful coexistence.

As constantly stressed by all the past conferences of the Cambodian, Lao, and Vietnamese foreign ministers, especially the 13th conference, we want to have true peace along the Cambodian-Thai border for the common interest of the Cambodian and Thai peoples and as an important contribution to peace, stability, and friendship in the region. The Kingdom of Thailand should reconsider its erroneous policy.

The PRK has always shown restraint and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Thailand. Otherwise, the remnants of the Pol Pot-Son Sann-Sihanouk bandits would not have been able to last this long.

Large segments of regional public opinion and many Thai personalities and people have demanded that the Thai Government stop supporting Pol Pot, and, instead, concentrate on solving Thailand's deteriorating economic situation.

The truth is that the past decades have clearly shown that the Pan-Thai expansionist policy has always failed. Their policy can in no way block the advance of the Cambodian revolution and the three Indochinese countries. Thailand's deceitful words and erroneous deeds not only cause insecurity and instability in the whole region, but also serve the expansionist interests of the Beijing and U.S. authorities.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

AGRICULTURE MINISTRY MEETING ON PRODUCTION ENDS

BK011440 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 1 Sep 86

[Text] The meeting to examine the speed of production and the orientation of efforts to promote agricultural production during the 1986 rainy season held at the Chamka Dong Institute of Agronomy came to a successful conclusion in the afternoon of 30 August after 2 days of work. During the 2-day sitting, the meeting enthusiastically discussed and exchanged views and experiences concerning production work during the current rainy season. They noted that despite uneven rainfall during this monsoon, our peasants have tried hard to overcome all difficulties, mobilized all means and labor forces, and based their efforts on the prevailing conditions in each locality. As a matter of fact, by 21 August the whole country had put nearly 120,000 hectares under floating rice and more than 30,600 hectares under early short-term rice. Nine provinces, namely Kandalh, Kompong Cham, Prey Veng, Takeo, Kompong Thom, Pursat, Kompong Chhnang, Kompat, and Kompong Speu, fully agreed with the advice and project of the Council of Ministers and the Ministry of Agriculture to put the planted area earmarked for medium-term rice under short-term rice instead by implementing intensive cropping techniques through the use of high yielding IR rice varieties, especially the IR-42 variety which has a relatively long stalk, in order to increase the volume of production to ensure a good standard of living for our people.

Addressing the closing ceremony, Comrade Say Chhum, member of the party Central Committee and minister of agriculture, urged all those present to correctly apply their new-found knowledge by striving to encourage the populace to use primitive tools such as scoops, pails, and waterwheels in addition to the pumps to bring water into the ricefields so that this monsoon's rice can be transplanted on all of, or more than, the 1.77 million hectares earmarked by the party and state. At the same time, they must encourage our people to collect as much compost and to use as much home-made insecticide as possible as well as to repair small, existing irrigation works in the localities so as to be in full control of water conservancy needed for production, thus contributing to the successful implementation of the first 5-year socioeconomic restoration and development plan of the party.

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CSO: 4212/100

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

MEDIA REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

25-31 August

BK011041 [Editorial Report] Cambodian media monitored by Bangkok Bureau carried the following reports on agricultural developments in Cambodia during the reporting period 25-31 August:

Battambang Province: SPK in English at 1107 GMT on 30 August reports that, thanks to good preparation of farm tools and timely assistance from the local authorities, peasants in the newly established district of Ek Phnum had by mid-August plowed 7,500 hectares of land, raised rice seedlings on 250 hectares, and put 4,600 others under rice, including 2,400 hectares of floating rice. The new district, located along the shore of the Tonle Sap Lake, also covered 1,900 hectares with jute and some 200 hectares with corn, cassava, and beans. Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 29 August reports that by the end of July, peasants in the whole province had retilled 141,385 of the 367,439 hectares earmarked for this monsoon; sowed 188,000 hectares of rice, including more than 76,000 hectares of late rice, 23,875 hectares of dibbling rice, and 4,124 hectares of medium and short-term tice; transplanted more than 819 hectares of rice; and planted more than 3,105 hectares of subsidiary food crops and 4,450 hectares of industrial crops.

Kampot Province: Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 31 August reports that by the end of July, peasants in Kampot District had retilled more than 4,700 hectares of land, reclaimed more than 30 hectares of wasteland, sowed more than 1,000 hectares of various types of rice, and put 7,020 hectares under rice by transplanting.

Kandal Province: SPK in English at 1102 GMT on 26 August says that by mid-August, peasants in Kandal Stoeng District had put 2,100 hectares under rice, including 1,144 hectares of floating rice and 275 hectares of IR-36 rice variety. SPK in English at 1107 GMT on 30 August reports that by early August peasants in this province had plowed 38,790 hectares, including 1,946 hectares by tractors; raised rice seedlings on 3,900 hectares; and put 15,000 hectares under rice by transplanting or direct sowing. Moreover, they covered 1,558 hectares with IR-36 rice variety. Besides, the peasants covered 3,677 hectares with industrial and subsidiary food crops such as cassava,

sesame, beans, and jute and 13,325 others with corn. They also harvested corn on 1,950 hectares, sesame on 1,070 hectares, subsidiary food crops on 107 hectares, and beans on 57 hectares. The same SPK report notes that peasants in Dangkao District had, by the end of August, put 3,660 hectares under rice, including 2,100 hectares of long-term rice and 200 hectares of IR-36 rice variety. The whole plan for this monsoon rice cropping is 9,000 hectares. The peasants also turned 40 hectares of wasteland into ricefields. Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 26 August reports that by early August the trade service of Ponhea Loe District had bought more than 461 metric tons of paddy, more than 1 metric tons of polished rice, more than 30 metric tons of palm sugar, and more than 4 metric tons of mung beans from the peasants. Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 30 August reports that by 20 August, peasants in Ponhea Loe District had tilled more than 1,280 hectares of land, sowed more than 380 hectares of various types of rice, broadcast more than 100 hectares of floating rice, and transplanted more than 120 hectares of rice. Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 28 August reports that so far, peasants in S'ang District have sold 600 metric tons of paddy to the state.

Kompong Cham Province: Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 27 August reports that by mid-July peasants in this province had sold more than 12,440 metric tons of paddy and more than 740 metric tons of polished rice to the state and had paid nearly 2,750 metric tons of paddy in patriotic contributions. In another cast at 0430 GMT on 28 August, the radio reports that by mid-July peasants in Ponhea Krek District had sold more than 1,100 metric tons of paddy and nearly 20 metric tons of beans and paid 80 metric tons in patriotic contributions to the state.

Kompong Chhnang Province: According to SPK in English at 1102 GMT on 26 August, thanks to timely rainfall and good preparation, peasants in Baribo District had by mid-August put 3,620 hectares under rice. The plan earmarked for this monsoon rice cropping is 8,000 hectares. Of the planted area, 1,530 hectares was covered with floating rice. According to SPK in English at 1107 GMT on 30 August, by mid-August, peasants in Rolea P'ier District had raised rice seedlings on 1,900 hectares and put 5,390 hectares under rice by direct sowing or transplanting. Leading were Rolea P'ier commune, which planted rice on 830 hectares, and Kouk Banteay on 1,170 hectares out of 1,300 hectares earmarked for this season.

Kompong Thom Province: Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 26 August reports that by the end of July, peasants in Baray District had plowed more than 18,560 hectares of land, raised rice seedlings on more than 4,900 hectares, transplanted nearly 6,270 hectares of rice, and put more than 6,800 other hectares under rice by direct sowing or dibbling. They also planted nearly 500 hectares of corn, nearly 1,000 hectares of mung beans, more than 60 hectares of beans, more than 60 hectares of tapioca, and nearly 100 hectares of soybeans. Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 30 August says that by 7 August, peasants in this same district of Baray had put more than 14,580 hectares under various crops, including more than 6,880 hectares under rice by direct sowing and nearly 7,600 others under rice by transplanting. They raised more than 4,950 hectares of rice seedlings and tilled more than 20,250 hectares of land, and planted more than 2,010 hectares of subsidiary food crops and nearly 490 hectares of industrial crops. Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 31 August

reports that peasants in Stoung District had, by the end of July, planted more than 11,780 hectares of crops, including more than 30 hectares of red corn, more than 100 hectares of white corn, more than 20 hectares of potatoes, more than 20 hectares of sugarcane, and more than 460 hectares of vegetables.

Prey Veng Province: SPK in English at 1102 GMT on 26 August reports that by mid-August, peasants in this province had put over 87,600 hectares under rice by direct sowing and transplanting. Unfortunately, 700 hectares of the planted area was damaged by last month's interrupted rainfall. The provincial agricultural service, for its part, is prepared to supply the peasants with 100 metric tons of IR-36 rice seed, some 1,600 metric tons of chemical fertilizer, and some 200 liters of insecticide. The peasants are now busy planting rice on 232,500 hectares earmarked for this monsoon. Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 30 August reports that by early August, peasants in this province had sold the state more than 14,800 metric tons of paddy with Chantreat, Kompong Trabek, and Peam Ro Districts taking the lead.

Sime Reap-Meanchey Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 25 August reports that during the first half of this year, the provincial trade service bought more than 50 percent of rice earmarked by the plan and collected nearly 1,800 metric tons of paddy from peasants as their patriotic contribution. Another radio report at 0430 GMT on 26 August says that by 15 August, peasants in this province had retilled more than 41,500 hectares of land, sowed more than 6,500 hectares of various types of rice, covered more than 8,740 hectares with rice by direct sowing, planted more than 6,130 hectares of slash-and-burn rice, more than 2,780 hectares of early rice, more than 4,900 hectares of middle rice, and nearly 8,700 hectares of late rice; and grown more than 3,360 hectares of subsidiary food crops, more than 45 hectares of industrial crops, and more than 1,300 hectares of vegetables.

Svau Rieng Province: Phnom Penh radio in its 0430 GMT cast on 27 August says that by the end of July, peasants in Chantrea District had sold more than 1,300 metric tons of rice to the state. Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 30 August reports that by the end of July, peasants of Svay Teap District had retilled more than 9,000 hectares of land, including more than 800 hectares with tractors; broadcast more than 120 hectares, transplanted more than 200 hectares, and sowed more than 2,200 hectares of various types of rice; and planted more than 320 hectares of subsidiary food crops.

1-7 September

BK081025 [Editorial Report] Cambodian Media monitored by Bangkok Bureau carried the following reports on agricultural developments in Cambodia during the reporting period 1-7 September:

National Level: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1134 GMT on 4 September reports that by the end of August, the cultivation of floating rice and short-term rice had been done respectively in 75 and 66 percent, respectively, of the area earmarked for this rice cropping. Cultivation was somewhat delayed due to less and irregular rain throughout the country, preceded by drought from

June to the beginning of August in several provinces; however, the Ministry of Agriculture has taken measures to settle the delay in agricultural production this year, SPK says. In another report, SPK in English at 1058 GMT on 7 September says that since its liberation from the genocidal Pol Pot regime on 7 January 1979, Cambodia's animal husbandry has strongly developed. Now, it has more than 2,249,000 head of cattle, an increase of 1,064,800 head over 1979, 1.3 million pigs, an increase of 1.2 million over 1979, and 7 million domestic fowls against only 1 million in 1979. So far this year, some 1 million head of cattle have been vaccinated against epizootic diseases.

Battambang Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 2 September reports that by the end of the second week of August, peasants in Ek Phnum District had retilled nearly 7,500 hectares of land, sowed 250 hectares of rice, broadcast more than another 4,600 hectares in rice, and planted nearly 200 hectares in subsidiary food crops and nearly 5,000 hectares in industrial crops. Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 7 September reports that from the beginning of the year to the end of July, the provincial veterinary service vaccinated more than 73,600 head of cattle against various diseases.

Kampot Province: Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 3 September reports that by 10 August, peasants in this province had retilled more than 30,900 hectares of land, sowed nearly 11,400 hectares of rice of various types, transplanted nearly 17,000 hectares of rice seedlings, and put another 1,140 hectares under subsidiary food crops and 1,010 hectares under industrial crops. They also collected more than 48,100 metric tons of organic fertilizer. Phnom Penh radio at 2300 GMT on 3 September reports that so far Dang Tong District has transplanted 991 hectares of various types of rice and bought more than 340 metric tons of paddy from the local peasants.

Kandal Province: According to SPK in English at 1102 GMT on 1 September, peasants in Ponhea Loe District put 1,450 hectares under rice in August alone. In the first 7 months they could grow rice on only 200 hectares because of drought. This monsoon the peasantry is expected to grow rice on 5,500 hectares. Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 4 September reports that by mid-August, peasants in this province had tilled more than 41,410 hectares of land, sowed more than 4,130 hectares of rice, put 19,845 hectares under floating rice by transplanting or direct sowing, and covered more than 13,320 hectares with corn, more than 1,320 hectares with potatoes, and more than 2,800 hectares with industrial crops.

Kompong Cham Province: Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 2 September reports that by 21 August, peasants of Prey Chhor District had plowed more than 1,400 hectares of land, sowed more than 1,000 hectares, transplanted more than 1,200 hectares of rice, and planted more than 780 hectares in subsidiary food crops, more than 20 hectares in industrial crops, and more than 100 hectares in vegetables. According to Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 5 September, by early August, peasants in Kompong Siem District had sold 99 metric tons of sesame to the state.

Kompong Chhnang: Phnom Penh radio at 2300 GMT on 3 September reports that by July, peasants in Baribo District had tilled and broadcast more than 1,550 hectares of floating rice, reclaimed more than 500 hectares of waste land, and planted nearly 200 hectares in subsidiary food crops and 14 hectares in industrial crops. Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 5 September reports that in July the local veterinary service vaccinated 6,100 oxen and 4,200 buffaloes against epizootic diseases.

Kompong Thom Province: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1102 GMT on 1 September reports that by early August peasants in Baray District had prepared 20,000 hectares of land for this current monsoon rice cropping. They had also raised rice sprouts on 5,000 hectares and sowed and transplanted rice on 14,500 hectares. Moreover, they planted 2,450 hectares in industrial and subsidiary food crops. Phnom Penh radio at 2300 GMT on 3 September says that by 5 August, the provincial trade service had bought more than 3,200 metric tons of paddy from the peasants.

Kompong Speu Province: Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 5 September reports that by 12 August, peasants in Samraong Tong District had plowed nearly 6,580 hectares of land, raised rice seedlings on more than 2,070 hectares, and transplanted rice on nearly 3,650 others. Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 7 September reports that by the second week of August, peasants in Phnum Sruoch District had retilled more than 2,720 hectares of land, sowed more than 650 hectares of rice, broadcast or transplanted more than 2,720 hectares of rice, and planted more than 550 hectares of subsidiary food crops.

Kratie Province: Phnom Penh radio at 2300 GMT on 1 September says that by July, peasants in this province had retilled more than 15,600 hectares of land, raised more than 790 hectares of rice sprouts of various types, covered more than 3,700 hectares with rice by transplanting, and reclaimed 445 hectares of fallow land.

Prey Veng Province: Phnom Penh SPK in French at 0428 GMT on 1 September reports that by mid-July, peasants in Kanchay Mea District had plowed 4,540 hectares of ricefields, covered 385 hectares with various types of rice, and transplanted another 552 hectares of rice. Peasants of Sithor Kandal District had by the second half of last month put 3,000 hectares under various rice varieties, including 1,035 hectares under floating rice. Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 6 September reports that by mid-August, peasants in Kompong Trabek District had planted more than 800 hectares of intensive rice, broadcast more than 7,300 hectares of floating rice, and planted nearly 300 hectares of subsidiary food crops and nearly 70 hectares of industrial crops. In a report on all-round development in Peam Ro District carried by Phnom Penh radio at 0430 GMT on 7 September, it is learned that in the agricultural field, from the beginning of the year to the end of June, the local peasantry sold more than 580 metric tons of paddy and paid another 350 metric tons in patriotic contribution to the state. By the end of June, they had retilled more than 580 hectares of land, transplanted more than 140 hectares of rice of various types, and covered more than 110 other hectares with rice by dibbling.

Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province: Phnom Penh radio at 1300 GMT on 2 September reports that by the end of July, the local authorities had bought more than 14,400 metric tons of paddy, including nearly 1,500 metric tons of paddy collected as patriotic contribution. Phnom Penh radio at 2300 GMT on 2 September reports that by the end of July, peasants in Puok District had retilled 21,000 hectares of land, sowed 480 hectares of rice, transplanted 1,710 hectares of various types of rice seedlings, and planted another 420 hectares in subsidiary food crops.

Svay Rieng Province: Phnom Penh radio at 2300 GMT on 2 September says that by August, peasants in Svay Teap District had retilled more than 11,960 hectares of land and sowed more than 1,500 hectares of rice. In another report at 1300 GMT on 3 September, the national radio says that by mid-August, peasants in this province had plowed more than 107,000 hectares of land, sowed more than 11,000 hectares of various types of rice, and planted more than 37,000 hectares, or 25 percent of the plan, in rice by transplanting or direct sowing.

Takeo Province: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1059 GMT on 5 September reports that authorities and peasants in this province have taken measures to speed up rice cultivation of which, due to the interrupted rainfall, only 30 percent of the planned area had been completed by the end of August. Seven thousand six hundred and eighty-three hectares of land, on which the short-term rice planted at the beginning of this rainy season was just harvested, have been plowed and planted with IR-36 and IR-42 rice varieties while other 2,500 hectares earmarked for the medium-term rice but left undone due to the delay of rainfall, have been turned up for short-term rice. Peasants in the whole province can now plant rice on 3,000 to 5,000 hectares daily.

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CSO: 4212/100

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

KPRAF BATTLE SUCCESSES REPORTED—In the spirit of continuing the implementation of the triple revolutionary movement and maintaining the position of strength and victory of the revolution, closely grasping all aggressive, subversive, and sabotage maneuvers of the enemies—of both the ringleaders and their stooges—the regular forces, regional forces, militia forces, the authorities, and the people everywhere in close and active cooperation with the Vietnamese Volunteer Army emulated each other enthusiastically in courageously smashing the bandits of all colors in time before they could commit any crimes against our people and cause any damage to state property. According to a tally of the KPRAF's combat activities conducted in cooperation with the Vietnamese Volunteer Army, both at the Cambodian-Thai border and in remote regions, last week 179 enemy soldiers of all stripes were put out of action, including 107 killed, 23 captured, and 49 persuaded to surrender. We seized 139 assorted guns, 29 artillery shells, 11 mines, 1 walkie-talkie, and a large number of other war materiel. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 4 Sep 86] /8309

CUBAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN GREETINGS—Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the PKK National Assembly, recently received a message from Comrade Flavio Bravo, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government of the Republic of Cuba. The message noted: I thank you for your warm and cordial greetings sent to me on my birthday. Availing myself of this occasion, I would like to reiterate the Cuban people's support and militant solidarity with the Cambodian people's struggle to defend their revolutionary gains. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Aug 86] /8309

301 ENEMY 'PUT OUT OF ACTION'—Our KPRAF and the Vietnamese volunteers jointly created new outstanding feats during the past week by putting out of action 301 enemies of all stripes—some 100 more than last week. Among these were 90 killed on the spot, 76 captured alive, and 135 others persuaded to return to the revolution and their families. We seized 69 assorted weapons, 722 rounds of assorted ammunition, 88 mines, 3 field radio sets, and a large quantity of war materiel. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 28 Aug 86] /8309

CSO: 4212/100

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

TAY NINH RECRUITS--Tay Ninh Province has quickly and efficiently completed the second phase of 1986 delivery of recruits for induction, fulfilling 100 percent of norms assigned by the upper level. Tan Binh, Chau Thanh, Hoa Thanh, Trang Bang, and Thi Xa Districts are the pace-setting units in this troop recruitment drive, doing well both quantitatively and qualitatively. Tay Ninh City in particular delivered the highest number of recruits, fulfilling 124 percent of the norms. Through criticism and struggle within the party, some localities in Tay Ninh have promptly corrected shortcomings such as drafting youths not eligible for military duty and the lack of fairness. They have also rectified the work methods characterized by protectionism, indulgence, and the lack of firmness, thus boosting public confidence. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Aug 86 BK] /8309

CSO: 4209/847

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

NHAN DAN MARKS 8TH NONALIGNED SUMMIT

BK021121 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 31 Aug 86

[NHAN DAN 1 September Editorial: "The Nonaligned Movement's Noble Goal of Protecting Peace, National Independence, and Development"]

[Text] Together with large segments of mankind, our people today commemorate the 25th founding anniversary of the Nonaligned Movement and warmly greet the eighth nonaligned summit opening in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe. With 25 member-countries a quarter of century ago, the Nonaligned Movement has now seen the involvement of more than 100 countries accounting for half of the world population and two-thirds of UN member-countries. This excludes some 20 countries or more which have joined the movement as observers.

The development course of the Nonaligned Movement is closely connected with the profound changes in the world situation over the past quarter of a century—that is the consolidation and unceasing growth of socialist countries and the vigorous rising of the national independence movement. Since Vietnam's victory, the strategic offensive of the world revolutionary forces has constantly developed, the peace movement has expanded more broadly than ever before, and the combined strength of all the tides of revolution and progress has formed a great common current spearheading its struggle against imperialism for the sake of peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress.

The U.S. imperialists and international reactionaries have not relinquished their reactionary objectives. They are intensifying their forces and causing a tense situation in the world, in order to recover their military superiority. However, their capabilities are limited.

The Nonaligned Movement's development course during the past 25 years has been rough because it has had to cope with the sabotage and divisive plots of imperialists and international reactionaries. The movement has firmly maintained its correct and noble objectives in line with the common trends of the era which are to resolutely oppose imperialism and protect peace, national independence, and development. This is the source of strength of the movement.

Nonaligned countries have increasingly developed their great role and important voice in life on this planet in safeguarding peace and international security, in opposing the arms race, in disarmament, and in protecting the independence and sovereignty of nations struggling for a new international economic order. Steadily pursuing the anti-imperialist objective, the Nonaligned Movement has made and is making worthy contributions to the common cause of nations and has proved clearly to be an increasingly important factor in international life.

The sixth summit chaired by Cuba and the seventh summit chaired by India marked a period of new, positive, and vigorous development for the movement. This has been reflected in the various resolutions sternly condemning the forces of aggression, resolutely safeguarding peace and national independence and liberation, and positively helping resolve major problems of the era.

Nonaligned countries' positive contributions can be also recognized through their efforts to coordinate with socialist countries to achieve such important UN resolutions as the statement on returning independence to various countries and colonies, the documents on non-use of force in the international relations, and banning of nuclear weapons use.

The eighth nonaligned summit opens today in Harare, Zimbabwe at a time when the world situation continues to become tense because of the U.S. imperialists and international reactionaries. They are counterattacking frantically and most fiercely against the forces of peace, revolution, and progress in the world, conducting the nuclear arms race on earth and in space as well, and threatening to use the strategy of regional war to undermine and attack the movement of national liberation and independence.

They are dumping the burden of their economic crisis onto the shoulders of the peoples of developing countries through a new policy of exploitation that is increasing the crippling debts of those countries.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries are upholding their policy of peace and solidarity with the forces of peace and the movements of progress in the world, including the Nonaligned Movement, with the aim of opposing the arms race, carrying out disarmament, and preserving peace in the entire world. This is considered the most important and urgent duty of mankind at present. The Soviet Union's important peace initiatives put forth recently by Comrade General Secretary Gorbachev on a comprehensive program to eliminate nuclear weapons by the end of this century, on the extension of the moratorium on nuclear tests until 1 January 1987, and on measures to ensure peace and security for the Asian-Pacific region are winning broad response and support from world public opinion, including that of many non-aligned countries as they meet the aspirations of all nations in the world.

The Harare summit will surely be a milestone marking a new and firmer step of progress for the Nonaligned Movement. The summit will study and decide on major current issues; enhance the position and role of the nonaligned movement; strengthen solidarity within the movement; provide realistic

assistance to nations that are struggling for the total elimination of colonialist domination, racial discrimination and apartheid in South Africa; consolidate peace and international security; contribute toward terminating the arms race, reducing and eliminating nuclear weapons, and realizing the principle of peaceful coexistence; positively contribute toward establishing a new world economic order; step up economic cooperation among the nonaligned countries; seek to establish a new world information order; and so forth.

Faced with the schemes and maneuvers of U.S. imperialists and international reactionaries, the Nonaligned Movement's struggle is a complex, difficult, and strenuous process. Nevertheless, we firmly believe that with solidarity, an identity of views, and loyalty to the objective already set forth, the movement is fully capable of continuing its vigorous development and advancing toward new successes.

As an active member of the Nonaligned Movement, our people--through their indomitable fight against aggression and their consistent voice at international forums--are filled with pride for having made worthy contributions to the struggle for the movement's noble goals in the past 25 years. Our people sincerely thank the nonaligned countries for having accorded them support and assistance during their anti-U.S. war for national salvation formerly as well as during their current undertaking to build and defend the fatherland.

In celebrating the 25th founding anniversary of the Nonaligned Movement and welcoming the Harare summit, our people once again affirm their determination to do their best to contribute toward realizing the goals of the Nonaligned Movement as well as toward consolidating the movement's stability and strength. Closely uniting and comprehensively cooperating with the Soviet Union, Laos, Cambodia, and the rest of the socialist community, uniting with other member-countries of the Nonaligned Movement, and pursuing and supporting the policy of peaceful coexistence among nations having different social and political systems and of normalizing relations and promoting mutually beneficial cooperation with other Southeast Asian countries, our people are contributing to the realization of the Nonaligned Movement's goals of peace, national independence, and development.

We hope that the eighth summit of the Nonaligned Movement will mark a new step of progress and a new quality for the movement and strengthen unity in the struggle against imperialism, old and new colonialism, racism, apartheid, and Zionism for the achievement of noble goals in order to advance the movement toward new heights.

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CSO: 4209/847

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

DELEGATION VISITS BULGARIA--At the invitation of the National Council of the Bulgaria Fatherland Front, Prof Dr Pham Khac Quang, member of the VFF Central Committee Presidium, has attended the International Conference on Environmental and Peace Preservation held in Varna, Bulgaria. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 30 Aug 86 BK] /8309

STUNG TRENG DELEGATION VISITS--A delegation of Stung Treng Province, Cambodia, led by (Chan Samnang), vice chairman of the provincial people's committee and chairman of the provincial planning commission, recently paid a working visit to Phu Khanh Province. The delegation held working sessions with the industrial, agricultural, forestry, trade, and communications-transportation sectors and a number of production establishments in Nhan Trang City and Tuy Hoa District. The delegations of the two provinces reviewed the program of cooperation for the past years and signed a plan for economic and cultural cooperation for 1987. On this occasion, by order of the PRK Council of State, Comrade (Chan Samnang) presented a number of Labor Orders First Class and Friendship Orders to cadres of Phu Khanh Province who have rendered meritorious services to the people of Stung Treng. He also awarded a certificate of merit to the Phu Khanh provincial sanitation service and epidemic prevention unit for its generous assistance to Stung Treng in malaria control and prevention work. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Aug 86 BK] /8309

CSO: 4209/847

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

HANOI GRASSROOTS UNIT HOLDS PARTY CONGRESS

BK080644 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 7 Sep 86

[Text] The party organization of the Hanoi Municipal Industrial Service held a congress on 29 and 30 August and contributed 116 ideas regarding 65 issues raised in the draft political reports of the party Central Committee and of the Hanoi Municipal and Hai Ba Trung Ward party committees.

The congress agreed that there must be drastic changes, a higher sense of responsibility, and a more scientific workstyle to coordinate the grassroots units' activities with those of various industrial sectors. Concerning the production status, the industrial service fulfilled its production plan by the highest percentage in August. However, during the first 8 months of this year, due to power and supply shortages, a number of enterprises have had to suspend production and, therefore, have fulfilled only 51.43 percent of their annual plans. On the other hand, 27 units have managed to fulfill 57-73 percent of their annual plans, including 9 enterprises which have fulfilled their plans by 73 percent or more. During the past 8 months, the entire industrial sector has embarked on building 59 new projects and products; 34 of these have already been completed during the second production phase and the remaining 25 will be finished in the last production phase of the year.

The industrial service of Hanoi and its trade union organizations have reviewed the results of the second phase of carrying out the service's four revolutionary movements and have launched a new emulation drive in an effort to overfulfill the 1986 plan by 10 percent or more, to deliver products to the state in full quantity, and to complete the remaining new projects and products.

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CSO: 4209/847

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

PROVINCES AIM TO COMPLETE BASIC CONGRESSES BY SEPTEMBER

BK281604 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 24 Aug 86

[Text] Various provinces and cities are striving to complete basic party organization congresses by late August or September. They are now holding district and ward party organization congresses. All provincial and city party committees have held conferences for party organizations to study the draft political report of the CPV Central Committee to be submitted at the Sixth CPV Congress, reviewed reports of provincial and district party organizations, set forth tasks on election of party committees, and designed regulations on holding party congresses, and so forth.

Prior to their congresses, various standing bodies of district and ward party committees exchanged views with basic party committees to discuss the local situation, shortcomings, and pending problems of each grassroots unit, while discussing targets for party committees in their next term. Provinces and cities also improved quality of the contingent of lecturers and heads of units responsible for organizing congresses to enable them to help party members at party bases firmly grasp the important contents of the party Sixth Congress' documents.

The Hanoi Municipal Party Committee organized party organization congresses at enterprises, villages, subwards, industrial complexes, and schools. It invited representatives of various sectors to attend these congresses to draw on experiences. The Haiphong Municipal Party Committee organized party congresses at the Buc Tan Long Enterprises and the Nam Son Agricultural Cooperative's party organization, while helping various districts organize basic party organization congresses. The municipal party committee strived to overcome shortcomings raised during the recent criticism and self-criticism drive prior to organizing party congresses.

The Vung Tau-Con Dao Special Zone also held party organization congresses at subwards, production establishments, enterprises, and military units. Some 14 district and town party committees of Binh Tri Thien Province organized courses to improve the skills of more than 3,000 lecturers to enable them to disseminate party congress' documents to party members at grassroots units.

To date, more than 70 percent of party bases have held their congresses. Huong Phu, Huong Dien, Huong Hoa, and A Luoi Districts and Dong Hoi City have completed their basic party organization congresses. Other districts are striving to complete their congresses by late August. Various basic party organizations are launching an emulation movement to score achievements to welcome the Sixth CPV Congress and their own congresses. They are accelerating production, improving the people's daily life, controlling flash floods, and maintaining social order and safety.

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CSO: 4209/847

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

CADRES IGNORE CAR, GASOLINE USE REGULATIONS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 18 Jul 86 p 1

['Contributing Opinions to the Party Congress' column: "Cars and Gas"]

[Text] SAIGON GIAI PHONG on 12 March 1986 criticized the wasteful use of cars, and later on 21 June 1986 published regulations of the Municipal People's Committee concerning the use of cars. I asked a long-time participant of the revolution and a regular reader of the paper, "Have you read it yet?" He replied naturally, "This has been an old story for many years that is told and retold and criticized countless times as everyone knows! But who listens and who will endure correction? The waste goes on and on!"

My friend's reply worried me and made me wonder about the effectiveness of our government regulations.

Actually, this story is old. According to SAIGON GIAI PHONG, the Municipal People's Committee stipulated the use of cars on 2 April 1979 (in Directive 557/UB) and on 24 March 1981 (in Directive 10/CT-UB). Now after several years, recently on 21 June 1986, the People's Committee issued Directive 1885/UB reiterating and recalling the old story because many state cars are still being used like private vehicles.

I had no intention of writing anything concerning information presented by the paper but my friend's statement and the reality caused me insomnia from the tossing and turning.

I don't have the ability to respond to the apprehensions of my friends and children over the prolonged problem of cars and gas during the past many years. If such a small thing (small compared with other important national problems) cannot be handled by the government, what about the large things? Although small, it is of great significance.

It is necessary to search for and overcome the reasons in order to restore confidence. There are probably many reasons. In my opinion however, special attention must be given to:

1. Achievement inspection: We all know a simple reason: leadership without organization to inspect should not be considered leadership. Leadership is not simply leading policy and position but also specifically leading the organization of achievement inspection. Position and achievement as well as theory

and practice must not be separated. There has been a position on car use for many years. Only by looking back now can we see that many people failed to respect or implement that position. Who is doing this? A number of individuals presently with power, position and a vehicle who use that vehicle in an indiscriminate and wasteful manner at a time in which our country is still in debt, revenues are less than expenditures, exports are less than imports, and the people are still poor. I suggest that an organization inspect achievement of this regulation because the reality of many years has proven that there are individuals with excessive power and position but not enough conscientiousness to inform the Municipal People's Committee that they have violated this regulation countless times. Don't wait until next year when the People's Committee will issue a directive, another directive, and still another directive.

2. The problem of revolutionary ethics: The prouder we are of those who took part in the previous Vietnamese war of resistance, the more distressed we are over a significant portion of the cadres that is degenerate, deviant or decadent to varying degrees.

Some people compare gasoline to blood but during the difficult and distressed situation at the present time, there are cadres who have plenty to eat and drink and also waste gasoline by making individual arrangements or to state it more accurately, by stealing state property. They are degenerate and deviant cadres who bear the title of "servants to the people" but who have actually become "big shots." The problem of intensifying education in revolutionary ethics, and purging the degenerate cadres from the ranks is a matter requiring concern and resolute achievement.

7300

CSO: 4209/829

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

INSPECTIONS UNCOVER ERRONEOUS ECONOMIC CONTRACTS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 22 Jul 86 p 1

[Article by L.T.T.: "Many Incorrect Economic Contracts Discovered"]

[Text] Strengthening the control of unit economic activities, during the first 6 months of this year, the economic arbitrators of 18 wards and districts conducted inspections of economic contracts.

A total of 15,963 economic contracts was examined, including 1,611 worth a total value of 973 million dong with many erroneous fund items for which correction suggestions were made. The ward and district economic arbitrators also cancelled 24 contracts that were erroneous in principle. Units properly controlling economic contract achievement were the 5th Precinct, Tan Binh Ward, Phu Nhuan Ward, etc. During the inspection of economic contracts, Phu Nhuan Ward and Thu Duc District discovered and resolved 32 economic contract disputes and forced those units erroneously implementing contracts to make compensation for the misappropriated capital.

7300
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AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

REPORTAGE ON DAMAGE, INJURIES, CAUSED BY TYPHOON NO 5

'Hundreds Dead, Injured' in Thai Binh

BK070613 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 Sep 86

[Text] Last night, 6 September, Comrade (Duong Hai Ngoc), a reporter of the Thai Binh provincial radio station, sent us the following message:

With winds reaching force 11-12 and gusting to force 13, on the night of 5 and early 6 September, Typhoon No 5 entered Thai Binh and knocked down even high-tension power poles, cutting high-voltage power lines across the Red River. At the Tan De ferry landing, two towboats and seven barges, though having been moved into shelters, were sunk. Many 20-30-year-old fruit and timber trees in the front yard of the provincial people's committee headquarters were also uprooted. At eight enterprises, more than 1,000 square meters of house and workshop floorspace were damaged and more than 7,000 square meters of roof were completely blown away. Thousands of residential houses were razed and scores of rice seed and insecticide warehouses damaged.

In Tien Hai District, 360 classrooms were wrecked by stormy winds during the night of 5 September. Earlier in the day, they had just opened their doors to welcome pupils for the new school year. In Kien Xuong District, 18 of the 24 classrooms of the Vu Quy General Middle School were damaged. The comrade director of the Thai Binh provincial education service said it would take at least more than a week to overcome these consequences and provide makeshift classrooms for the affected students.

Yesterday morning, 6 September, on Route 39, ambulances, trucks, and small vehicles had to clear the road themselves to quickly reach the storm-stricken localities to help them overcome the aftermath of the typhoon. In their first hour of operation, the western and eastern hospitals of Tien Hai District had received scores of patients transferred from various villages and had provided them with timely first aid. The Thai Binh provincial public health sector has sent three first-aid units to various districts to assist the grassroots health services in overcoming the consequences of the typhoon on the spot. Despite these efforts, Typhoon No 5, with its extremely strong winds, has caused hundreds of dead or injured.

While torrential rains and roaring winds were moving down trees and razing houses, in many localities cadres and workers, braving life-threatening danger, courageously rushed out to save lives and property of the state, collectives, and people. At the Thai Binh City's garment enterprise, hundreds of cadres, workers, and employees exposed themselves to the rains and winds to promptly move tens of thousands of meters of fabrics to safer places and clean up workshops to firmly maintain production. Before and after the typhoon, workers at various major sluices, laboring against time, managed to drain tens of millions of cubic meters of water, thereby taking the initiative in saving more than 80,000 hectares of rice from inundation, including nearly 20,000 hectares of budding 10th-month rice. Due to the timely efforts of the flood and typhoon control committees of various districts and villages to protect dams and dikes, most sea dikes in Tien Hai and Thai Thuy Districts remained intact, effectively preventing any overflow of sea water.

Yesterday afternoon, 6 September, the Thai Binh Provincial People's Committee called a meeting of various sectors and organs to discuss adoption of urgent measures to promptly overcome the consequences to Typhoon No 5. In the immediate future, rice areas must be tended and protected from harmful insects and diseases which may develop in the posttyphoon period. Dong Hung, Hung Ha, and Vu Thu Districts, which have alluvial plains, have produced additional sweet potato cuttings, provided training in corn growing techniques, stored silt, and turned out more fertilizer for the planting of potatoes. They have also motivated people to uphold the mutual assistance spirit by offering food and shelter to the storm victims and providing learning facilities for displaced children.

Faced with the ravages of Typhoon No 5, the people of Thai Binh, with the strength of their mastery and looking forward to the party organizations congresses at all levels and the sixth party congress, have the required fortitude to overcome natural calamities, to satisfactorily protect and tend the 10th-month rice, and to grow the winter crop early. They are determined to reap 70,000-90,000 metric tons of subsidiary food crop products, thereby helping to overcome the losses caused by flash floods and typhoons to the spring and 10th-month crops.

Radio Editor on Overcoming Aftermath

BK071337 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 Sep 86

["Article" by a Radio editor: "Urgently Overcome the Aftermath of Typhoon No 5"]

[Text] Typhoon No 5 entered our country's Bac Bo region on the night of 5-6 September. Typhoon No 5 was very strong, with center winds reaching force 11-12 and gusting to force 13. The typhoon, traveling at a fast speed--25 km per hour--had a radius of nearly 200 km.

As the typhoon rushed in at midnight, it created many difficulties for control efforts. Despite the fact that the meteorological-hydrological organ had issued early and regular warnings, that the Central Committee for Control of Typhoons and Floods had promptly issued orders and provided guidance for preventive and control activities, and that various localities had, in an urgent and active manner, adequately prepared manpower and materials to carry out guard and patrol missions in a strict manner, Typhoon No 5 was still able to inflict remarkable losses on us.

In the areas where the center of the typhoon passed through, especially in the coastal districts in Thai Binh and Ha Nam Ninh Provinces, strong winds wrecked and damaged many houses, storehouses, schools, hospitals, electricity poles and communications lines; sank many sampans and barges, including those berthing in rivers; damaged a number of rice and subsidiary food crops, especially early 10th-month rice plants growing ears; and left many people dead and injured.

Following the typhoon there has been heavy rain in many areas from Quang Ninh to the northern part of the fourth region, causing waterlogging and flooding to a number of low-lying areas. Heavy rain has, so far, continued in many areas in the Bac Bo region.

Following hail and tornados early this year, prolonged heavy rain caused flooding and waterlogging. This, together with harmful insects such as brown leaphoppers, caused extensive damage to the 5th-month spring rice crop last May. This typhoon was another great natural calamity causing extensive losses to us, thereby creating more difficulties for production and the people's livelihood.

With a determination to achieve self help and self reliance and to overcome difficulties, our cadres and people have actively and boldly fought against natural calamities to minimize losses, have quickly overcome the typhoon aftermath, and helped one another stabilize their lives. In particular, they have resorted to every possible means to step up production in order to partly make up for losses caused by natural calamities.

Immediately before and after the arrival of typhoon No 5, many party committee echelons, local government authorities, steering committees for the control of typhoons and floods, and various local sectors and mass organizations assigned personnel to go to sensitive areas to guide, supervise, and help with on-site typhoon control activities. At present, in those localities hard hit by the typhoon such as Thai Binh and Ha Nam Ninh and those slightly affected, such as Hai Hung, Haiphong, Quang Ninh, and Ha Son Bing, leadership echelons have promptly gone to grassroots units to help quickly organize efforts to overcome the typhoon's aftermath. This is to promptly stabilize the people's lives and step up production.

What we have to do right now is provide relief assistance to victimized families, rescue and give medical treatment to the injured, clean up houses which have collapsed or been damaged, call for mutual assistance and quickly provide food and shelters to homeless people, and repair those houses which have damaged roofing or which have become unsafe. This is to quickly stabilize the people's lives.

We must put back into operation those work projects, material bases, and production sites which have been damaged or flooded in order to protect the property of the state and the people and to help resume production and other activities. We must repair those storehouses with damaged roofing repair and dry out materials or property items which litter the ground and are exposed to rain, stand up fallen rice plants, drain waterlogged or flooded ricefields, repair damaged bridges, culverts, and roads in order to reopen them to traffic; restore the low-voltage power line system and the telephone network; repair various schools and hospitals in order to quickly resume schooling for the children and care for the sick; satisfactorily carry out sanitation against diseases; and maintain public order and safety.

We must also inspect various farmland irrigation projects in order to ensure irrigation and drainage and especially to combat waterlogging as heavy rain continues to fall. While urgently overcoming the consequences of Typhoon No 5, we must promptly inspect the production situation and revise the winter crop production plan as well as the plans of other production sectors with a determination to attain higher-than-initially-planned results in order to make up for losses caused by Typhoon No 5.

As for those localities not affected by Typhoon No 5, apart from organizing activities to help those localities hit by the typhoons, what is more important for them is to try to step up, expand, and increase all their production criteria, especially those for agricultural production in order to prevent a serious drop in food production on a national scale as a result of the losses suffered in those localities hit by the natural calamity. Those localities with abundant land, crop varieties, and capital and rarely struck by natural calamities such as those in the Mekong River Delta, must have more specific and positive plans for this work.

We are now still in the rainy season, and there are many abnormalities in this year's weather conditions. All the areas, especially those in the Bac Bo and Trung Bo regions, must maintain high vigilance and must take precautions against natural calamities. They must draw on experience learned from the recent Typhoon No 5 and must make better and more adequate preparations for more effective prevention and combat against future natural calamities.

Vu Dinh Lieu Visits Stricken Areas

BK071312 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 7 Sep 86

[Text] According to a report from Comrade (Hai Ngoc) of the Thai Binh radio station, today, 7 September, Comrade Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the CPV Central Committee and Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers, together with the comrade vice ministers of agriculture, public health, supply, power, and home trade, and comrades from the State Planning Commission, visited various areas hard hit by Typhoon No 5 in Thai Binh Province.

In Tien Hai District--the hardest hit locality--members of the delegation visited the West Tien Hai Hospital and the (Phu Sinh Dong) Catholic congregation in Nam Trung village where there are 800 families. Almost all their houses collapsed. Comrade Vu Dinh Lieu, on behalf of the party and the state, expressed his compliments and urged various sectors and echelons in Tien Hai District in particular and the people of Thai Binh in general to urgently concentrate on satisfactorily tackling the typhoon aftermath with the emphasis on repairing facilities as dispensaries, schools, kindergarten playgrounds, and dwelling houses for the people. On the other hand, they must continue to restore production, care for and protect the 10th-month rice crop, prepare for the winter crop production, maintain public order and security, and thereby contribute to ensuring local welfare and production.

In order to help the Thai Binh people quickly stabilize their livelihood and restore production, the Ministry of Agriculture will promptly provide Thai Binh with 5,000 metric tons of nitrogenous fertilizer and 50 metric [as printed] of insecticide to care for its 10th-month rice. The Ministry of Home Trade will supply 60,000 cubic meters of oil paper and 50 metric tons of draft paper to school children. The Ministry of Power, together with the provincial electricity generating sector, will concentrate on dealing with various 110-kilovolt and 35-kilovolt power lines in order to create conditions for industrial establishments to resume production and to operate water pumps to fight drought in the ricefields. As for the Ministry of Public Health, it will provide each village with some medicine to care for the people's health.

Vu Dinh Lieu Tours Ha Nam Ninh

BK081029 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Sep 86

[Text] Immediately after Typhoon No 5 dissipated, various localities, especially those hardest hit by flash floods and waterlogging in the wake of Typhoon No 3, have stepped up their efforts in guiding the mobilization of means and laborers to repair dams, dikes, sluices, ricefield embankments and to drain water from low-lying areas and canals, thereby actively preparing to cope with possible prolonged, heavy rains in the days ahead.

Meanwhile, localities in the elevated areas are concentrating on guiding efforts to tend rice and subsidiary food crops. In Thai Binh, Ha Nam Ninh, and Haiphong, cooperatives have promptly mobilized large numbers of laborers to replant rice, clean up ricefields, tend late-season 10th-month rice, and create favorable conditions for the rice plants to develop well and evenly.

Comrade Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, has visited Ha Nam Ninh to inspect the damage caused by Typhoon No 5. He reminded all echelons to do everything they can in a satisfactory manner to quickly normalize the people's living conditions and production activities.

78309

CSO: 4209/847

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

THAI BINH POWER SYSTEM DAMAGE—According to a radio reporter in Thai Binh Province, Typhoon No 3 has caused extensive damage to the province's power network, knocking down nearly 200 high- and low-tension power and telephone poles. A total of 28 km of power lines from Tien Hai to Long Boi were seriously damaged. To date, the province's power system has not yet been completely restored. At present, Thai Binh's electricity sector, with the assistance of the Ministry of Power, is concentrating on repairing main power lines to ensure power supply for industrial production and waterlogging control. By the afternoon of 7 September the provincial post and telegraph service had restored the province's telephone lines to seven districts. The provincial radio station is also urgently consolidating its transmission system and 240 village stations [number as received] [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 8 Sep 86] /8309

CSO: 4209/847

LIGHT INDUSTRY

VIETNAM

RAW MATERIAL SHORTAGES HALT TIRE PRODUCTION

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 15 Jul 86 p 3

[Article by Lam Sang: "Tan Binh Rubber Cooperative Increases Production Capabilities Without Materials"]

[Text] At the beginning of this July, we visited Tan Binh Rubber Cooperative. Here there were problems for the cooperative itself, and at the same time questions requiring prompt answers by concerned sectors and echelons.

Tan Binh Rubber is one of the "prospering" cooperatives of the Tan Binh small industry and handicrafts production area. The cooperative's production rises continuously as does the income of the cooperative member, encouraging those engaged in handicrafts to attach themselves to the cooperative. There is increasing customer confidence in the quality of primary products such as tires for touring cars, tractors, mechanical plows (the front wheels), etc. These primary products of the cooperative have been awarded one gold or silver medal after another at national economic and technical achievement exhibitions. The 1985 Advanced Unit Banner (each ward has only one unit so rewarded) presented by the Municipal Federation of Cooperatives affirms the pleasing progress of Tan Binh Cooperative.

This is because the cooperative has methods of rational capital use with the swift recovery of investment capital and harmonious coordination between investment to expand production and in-depth investment to both increase output and to raise product quality. However, this route into the "air" of Tan Binh Rubber Cooperative is being halted abruptly. More than 3 months ago, due to a shortage of various types of primary materials (partially supplied by party A), the cooperative was forced to suspend production. Nevertheless, the Tan Binh Rubber Cooperative director stated, "The cooperative has suspended production and no primary products are coming out; but the laborers are continuing to work and more than 50 percent of the cooperative members still earn enough to live during this time of excessive difficulty for the cooperative."

What is the source of this income? Thanks to increasingly more confident work, the cooperative at the beginning of this April signed two "involved" economic contracts for 1986. It is estimated that when these two contracts are completed, the cooperative will have achieved a total output value four times that of 1985. To ensure this heavy production mission, the cooperative has formulated a plan for expanding production and installing an additional assembly line for producing 100,000 Honda tires annually with an investment expenditure of 1.5

million dong (more than 900,000 dong of this amount was borrowed from the bank with the remainder coming from the cooperative's independently acquired capital). According to this plan, to ensure the 1986 production mission, the cooperative hired a number of outside construction units for the production expansion construction portion; and now while halting production due to raw material shortages, the cooperative has flexibly chosen a number of craftsmen skilled in construction, equipment installation, etc. for introduction to project construction. Along with that, in order to actively begin production at a rapid rate when the raw materials arrive, the cooperative during the past 3 months has organized the cooperative members to accomplish a number of product semi-finishing steps. The income of the cooperative members is lower than during normal production (only about 30 to 40 percent) but the cooperative is temporarily maintaining the craftsmen ranks and not one has left. Now the source of "raw material" for this temporary work has also gone dry. In Shop 1, the volume of semifinished products is fairly large. In the cooperative warehouse, the types of materials "self-acquired" by the cooperative (about 25 to 30 percent) according to stipulations in the contract are sufficient for production until the end of the year. In Shop 2, installation of the new production line in accordance with the expansion plan is nearing the concluding phase. Gigantic rollers, bulky cord making machines, tread makers with many complex components, more than 20 brand new and still shiny tire molds, etc. have all been neatly installed beneath the metal roofed and well-ventilated shop precisely in accordance with the rational machine arrangement diagram of the production expansion plan.

The equipment is ready and the people are also ready but the various types of primary materials, the "concern" for which is the responsibility of party A, are still not available. There is 1.5 million dong worth of new investment capital and an appreciable amount of other fixed capital of the cooperative still lying idle simply because of a shortage of materials under unified state management. Tan Binh Rubber Cooperative is preparing in a "traditional" manner like many other units of "a leisurely beginning of the year and a hurried end." However, the "leisurely" period this year is longer than before. Why is that? Could it be that this "epic" in materials is becoming increasingly protracted? Or could it be that there is nothing new in the planning (of sectors concerned in the tire production of Tan Binh Cooperative)?

At the present time, Tan Binh Rubber Cooperative is not the only one enduring this situation. There are also not a few small industry and handicraft units lamenting that state-operated production and business units are "cavalierly" signing contracts that casually mention the product delivery periods but not the raw material delivery periods of the commissioned units, while the production units continue to wait and wait.

7300
CDO: 4209/829

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

VIETNAM

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON NEW SCHOOL YEAR, 6TH CONGRESS

BK061534 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Sep 86

[NHAN DAN 5 September editorial: "The School Year To Welcome the Sixth Party Congress"]

[Text] Today, half a million teachers and nearly 15 million students enter the new school year known as the school year to welcome the Sixth Party Congress. In this school year, efforts will be made to improve the quality of education in all respects and step up the emulation movement for academic and scholastic excellence launched by respected and beloved President Ho Chi Minh exactly 20 years ago. Overcoming many difficulties, the general education sector in the last school year continued to develop in a positive manner. Educational goals were more comprehensive, with cultural education being linked with political education and revolutionary ethics and especially, with education in productive labor, combined technology, job-oriented guidance, and general vocational training for students. Schools were linked with life and socioeconomic and national defense objectives. Schools are now truly shifting from literary education to literary, ethical, and vocational education.

All these, however, are but the initial results. Many shortcomings and difficulties remain to be overcome by both teachers and students. School truancy and class retention are still rampant. A number of school graduates show a weak sense of labor in service of the country, lack socialist ideals, and do not have a firm grasp of the socialist lifestyle. The quality and effectiveness of education are still low compared with the requirements for building a new type of socialist man; and they do not meet the expectations of each family and society as a whole. The material-technical bases in support of education work are poor and scarce. Teachers are still beset with hardship and difficulties in their lives.

In the new school year, education work will be developed along the line of improving quality and increasing effectiveness based on the requirements and capabilities for economic construction, of linking schools with socioeconomic and national defense objectives, of combining study with productive labor, and of training and developing a new type of man. This is the school

year to enhance the quality of political, ethical, and legal education so as to instill patriotism in the students and make them truly love to study, develop a sense of organization and discipline, respect their teachers, have affection for their friends, adopt a healthy lifestyle, and respect the law. This is also the school year to continue carrying out vigorously and steadily the orientations and policies for educational reforms. Along with introducing a new curriculum and new textbooks for the first grade of Level II [Roman two] and continuing to perfect educational reforms with regard to curricula and textbooks for Level I [Roman one], it is necessary to stabilize and improve the quality of teaching and studying cultural and scientific subjects at other grades.

The central issues facing general schools at present still remains to concretize the goals of education to meet the requirements and characteristics of the socioeconomic situation in each locality, bring technological education and vocational training into an established pattern, consolidate the various classes offering training in common skills, and effectively organize productive labor, especially agricultural and small industry and handicraft production and production of export goods so as to create more material wealth for society. A number of provinces and municipalities have gained much experience in mobilizing the participation of social forces in providing vocational training while organizing productive labor for students and arranging rational job placement for them upon graduation. This is a lively and creative manifestation of the mechanism of leadership by the party, collective mastery by the people, and management by the state in the field of education.

Under the guidance and direct leadership of local party committee echelons and administrative bodies, close coordination between schools and production establishments and the students' parent constitutes a factor deciding the effectiveness of vocational training and rational placement of students upon their graduation. Education is an undertaking to train men and it requires careful investment by the state. Nevertheless, it is also an undertaking of the entire people and is carried out with the efforts of both the state and the people and through productive labor at each school. The quality of comprehensive education also depends heavily on the results achieved in physical education and national defense training as well as in aesthetic education at school.

In this school year, it is necessary to link physical and hygienic education and physical education and sports with activities conducted to prepare for the second national [words indistinct] and to combine artistic education with cultural and artistic activities designed to welcome the Sixth Party Congress. Efforts must be made to build the contingent of teachers, constantly enhance their capability and quality, and adopt policies aimed at highlighting the social standing of teachers and caring for their material benefits so they will feel content with their noble profession. This is a very necessary task that all echelons and sectors as well as [the] whole have the responsibility to carry out.

The new school year has begun. With deep concern, our people wish our dear teachers and all our students academic and scholastic excellence [passage indistinct]

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